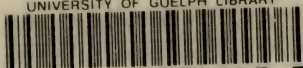


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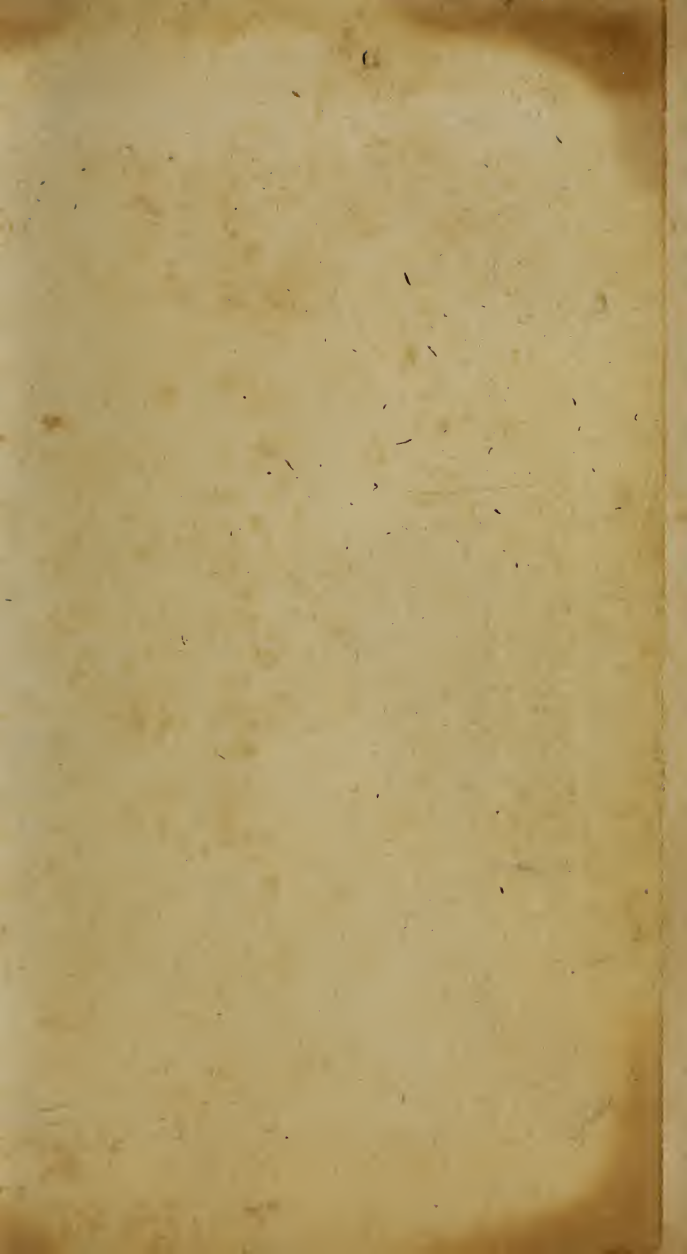
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R. Scott Sculp.

VIEW of the CITY of EDINBURGH from the NORTH WEST

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THE
STRANGER'S GUIDE

TO
EDINBURGH :

CONTAINING
A HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION
OF

The City :

WITH
A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF ITS CIVIL
AND POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENTS;

AND
A SKETCH OF THE COUNTRY IN THE VICINITY
OF EDINBURGH.

EMBELLISHED WITH
ELEGANT ENGRAVINGS.

THE SIXTH EDITION,
BROUGHT DOWN TO THE PRESENT YEAR.

Edinburgh :

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CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
GENERAL HISTORY	5	The Observatory	113
DESCRIPTION OF OLD EDIN-		The General Excise office	115
BURGH	48	St George's Chapel	ib.
Ditto, of NEW EDINBURGH	55	St Andrew's Church	116
George's Square	60	Physicians' Hall	ib.
Bellevue	ib.	Assembly Rooms	ib.
The Castle	62	Heriot's Hospital	117
Bank of Scotland	67	Watson's Hospital	119
The Tolbooth	ib.	The Merchants Maiden	
The Parliament House	68	Hospital	120
The Advocates Library	69	The Trades Maiden Hospital	ib.
The Council Chamber	70	The Orphan Hospital	121
St GILES'S CHURCH	ib.	Gillespie's Hospital	122
The New Church	72	The Trinity Hospital	123
The Old Church	73	Asylum for the Blind	124
The Tolbooth Church	ib.	Magdalen Asylum	ib.
Haddow's Hole Church	ib.	The Charity Workhouse	125
The Signet Office	75	Religious Establishments	126
The Exchange	76	Royal Academy of Exercises	130
The North Bridge	77	Royal Company of Archers	131
The Theatre	79	Company of Golfers	133
The Amphitheatre	83	Political Constitution	135
The Register Office	84	Town Guard	138
The South Bridge	87	Militia or Trained Bands	140
The Concert Hall	88	Number of Inhabitants	141
The University	89	Markets of Edinburgh	142
The Botanical Garden	97	The Various Professions in the	
The Public Dispensary	98	City of Edinburgh	143
The Royal Infirmary	ib.	New Bridewell	144
The High School	101	The Environs of Edinburgh	145
The Mint	103	The Prospect from the Castle	ib.
The English Chapel	ib.	Queen's Street	147
The Canongate Church	105	Bernard's Well	148
The Palace of Holyrood-		The Meadows	149
House	106	Salisbury Craggs	150

	Page		Page
The Walk around Calton Hill	151	Coast of Fife	164
Arthur's Seat	152	Palaces, Castles, Villas, &c.	166
The Town and Harbour of		The House of Grange . . .	ib.
Leith	153	Hermitage of Braid . . .	167
Musselburgh	158	Craigmillar Castle	ib.
The Village of Inveresk . .	ib.	Duddingston House . . .	169
Dalkeith	ib.	The Palace and Park of Dal-	
The Village of Pennycuik	160	keith	170
The Village of Corstorphine	ib.	Newbattle Abbey . . .	171
Newhaven	ib.	Melville Castle	172
Cramond	161	Hawthornden	ib.
Queensferry	ib.	Roslin	ib.
Linlithgow	162	Pennycuik House . . .	174
The Iron Works of Carron	163	Hopetoun-House or Palace	175
Borrowstounness	163	Borthwick-Castle . . .	176
Stirling	164		

APPENDIX.

Remarks on the late War and its effects on the city of Edin- burgh	179	Bishop Sandford's Chapel	209
Increasing Opulence of the City	185	Episcopal Chapel York Place	209
Learned Men, and Literary Productions	188	Catholic Chapel	210
Scottish National Music . .	193	Nelson's Monument . . .	211
Edinburgh Institution for im- proving Sacred Music . . .	194	New Jails	212
Parliament-House	197	Prince Regent's Bridge, and New Road over the Calton Hill	214
Writer to the Signet's Li- brary	201	Lunatic Asylum	215
Advocates Library	205	LEITH	218
Exchequer Buildings . . .	206	Wet Docks	219
County Hall	207	Exchange Buildings . . .	220
St George's Church	ib.	Seafield Baths	221
		North Leith Church . . .	ib.
		Hillhousefield, or New Town of Leith	ib.
UNION CANAL betwixt Edinburgh and Glasgow	224		
REPORT by Mr Stark on the Plans for laying out the grounds betwixt Edinburgh and Leith.	225		





GUIDE

TO THE

CITY OF EDINBURGH.

GENERAL HISTORY.

THE origin of the name of this city, like that of most others, is very uncertain. Some imagine it to be derived from Eth, a supposed king of the Picts. Others from Edwin, a Saxon Prince of Northumberland, who over-ran the whole or greatest part of the territories of the Picts, about the year 617: while others choose to derive it from two Gaelic words, *Dun Edin*, signifying the face of a hill. The name *Edinburgh* itself, however, seems to have been unknown in the time of the Romans. The most ancient title by which we find this city distinguished, is that of *Castell Mynydd Agned*; which signifies, “the fortress of the hill of St Agnes.” Afterwards it was named *Castrum Puellarum*. The ages in which these names were given, cannot now be exactly ascertained.

The Romans, during the time they held the dominion of part of this island, divided their posses-

Origin of the City and Castle of Edinburgh.

sions into six provinces. The most northerly of these was called *Valentia*, which comprehended all the space between the walls of Adrian and Severus ; *i. e.* between the Friths of Forth and Clyde, on the north ; and the Tyne and the Solway, on the south ; and the site of Edinburgh is on the very outskirts of that province.

The Castle is certainly very ancient. Upon the defeat of Egfrid, king of Northumberland in 685, it fell into the hands of the Picts. The Saxon kings of Northumberland reconquered it in the ninth century ; and it was retained by their successors till the year 956, when it was given up to Indulphus king of Scotland. In 1093 it was unsuccessfully besieged by the usurper Donald Bane. Whether this city was at that time founded or not, is uncertain. Most probably it was ; for as protection from violence was necessary in those barbarous ages, the Castle of Edinburgh could not fail of being an inducement to many people to settle in its neighbourhood ; and thus the city would gradually be founded and increase. In 1128, King David I. founded the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, for certain canons regular, and granted them a charter, in which he styled the town *Burgo meo de Edwinsburg*, “ my borough of Edinburgh.” By the same charter, he granted these canons 40 shillings yearly out of the town revenues, and likewise 48 shillings more from the same, in case of the failure of certain duties payable from the king’s revenue ; and likewise one

Castle surrendered to Henry II. . . . and to Edward I.

half of the tallow, lard, and hides, of all the beasts killed in Edinburgh.

In 1174 the Castle of Edinburgh was surrendered to Henry II. of England, in order to purchase the liberty to King William I. who had been defeated and taken prisoner by the English. But when William had recovered his liberty, he entered into an alliance with Henry, and married his cousin Ermengarde, upon which the castle was restored as part of the queen's dower.

In 1215, this city was first distinguished by having a parliament and provincial synod held in it.— In 1296, the castle was besieged and taken by Edward I. of England ; but was recovered in 1313 by Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray, who was afterwards regent in Scotland during the minority of King David II. At last King Robert destroyed this fortress, as well as all others in Scotland, lest they should afford shelter to the English in any of their after incursions into Scotland. It lay in ruins for several years, but was afterwards rebuilt by Edward III., who placed a strong garrison in it.

In 1341, it was reduced by the following stratagem. A man, pretending to be an English merchant, came to the governor, and told him that he had on board his ship in the Forth some wine, beer, biscuits, &c. A bargain being made, he promised to deliver the goods next morning at a very reasonable rate ; but at the time appointed, twelve men, disguised in the habit of sailors, entered the castle

Execution of the Earl of Athole, &c.

with the goods and supposed merchant ; and having instantly killed the porter and centinels, Sir William Douglas, on a pre-concerted signal, rushed in with a band of armed men, and quickly made himself master of the place, after having cut most of the garrison in pieces.

The year 1437 is remarkable for the execution of the Earl of Athole and his accomplices, who had a concern in the murder of James I. The crime, it must be owned, was execrable, but the punishment was altogether shocking to humanity. For three days successively the assassins were tortured by putting on their heads iron crowns heated red hot, dislocating their joints, pinching their flesh with red hot pinchers, and carrying them in that dreadful situation through the streets upon hurdles. At last an end was put to their sufferings, by cutting them up alive, and sending the parts of their mangled bodies to the principal towns of the kingdom.

About the end of the 14th century, it was customary to consider Edinburgh as the capital of the kingdom. The town of Leith, with its harbour and mills, had been bestowed upon it by Robert I. in 1329 ; and his grandson, John Earl of Carrick, who afterwards ascended the throne by the name of Robert III. conferred upon all the burgesses the singular privilege of building houses in the castle, upon the sole condition that they should be persons of good fame ; which we must undoubtedly consider as a proof that the number of these burgesses

Privileges conferred on Edinburgh by Henry VI. Blue Blanket.

was at that time very small. In 1461, a very considerable privilege was conferred on the city by Henry VI. of England, when in a state of exile : viz. that its inhabitants should have liberty to trade to all the English ports on the same terms with the city of London. This extraordinary privilege was bestowed in consequence of the kindness with which that king was treated in a visit to the Scottish monarch at Edinburgh : but as Henry was never restored, his gratitude was never attended with any benefit to this city. From this time, however, its privileges continued to be increasing from various causes. In 1482, the citizens had an opportunity of liberating king James III. from the oppression of his nobles, by whom he had been imprisoned in the castle. On this account, the provost was, by that monarch, made hereditary high sheriff within the city, an office which he still continues to enjoy. The council at the same time were invested with the power of making laws and statutes for the government of the city : and the trades, as a testimony of the royal gratitude for their loyalty, received the banner known by the name of the *Blue Blanket* ; an ensign formerly capable of producing great commotions, but which has not now been displayed for many years past. It still exists, and the Convener of the trades has the charge of keeping it.

It was not long after the discovery of America, that the venereal disease, said to have been imported from that country, made its way to Edinburgh.

Battle of Flowden. City wall built.

As early as 1497, only five years after the voyage of Columbus, we find it looked upon as a most dreadful plague ; and the unhappy persons affected with it, were separated as effectually as possible from society. The place of their exile was *Inchkeith*, a small island near the middle of the Forth, which, small as it is, has a spring of fresh water, and now affords pasture to some sheep.

By the overthrow of James IV. at the battle of Flowden, the city of Edinburgh was overwhelmed with grief and confusion, that monarch having been attended in his unfortunate expedition by the Earl of Angus, then provost, with the rest of the magistrates, and a number of the principal inhabitants, most of whom perished in the battle ; after distinguishing themselves in an eminent manner, by their loyalty and heroism. James naturally possessed all that bravery, and those romantic notions of honour, which are calculated to procure esteem among a martial people : And in this expedition, such was the zeal of the people for their monarch's glory, that he was followed by as gallant an army as ever any of his ancestors had led into the territories of England ; the greater part of which shared their sovereign's fate. After this disaster, the inhabitants being alarmed for the safety of their city, it was enacted, that every fourth man should keep watch at night ; the fortifications of the town were renewed, the wall being also extended in such a manner as to inclose the grass-market, and the

Town Guard. Burrow Muir covered with wood.

field on which Heriot's Hospital, the Grey Friars Church, and Charity Work-house, stand. On the east side it was made to inclose the ground on which now stand the College, Infirmary, and High School; after which, turning to the north, it met the old wall at the Netherbow-port. After this alarm was over, the inhabitants were gradually relieved from the trouble of watching at night, and a certain number of militia appointed to prevent disturbances, who continue to this day, and are known by the name of the *Town-Guard*. Before these new inclosures, most of the principal people lived in the Cowgate, without the wall, and the burying-place was situated where the Parliament Close now is. In our days of peace, when no alarm of an enemy is at all probable, the greater part of the walls, with all the gates, have been taken down, and the city laid quite open, in order to afford more ready passage to the great concourse of people with whom the streets are daily filled. But at the period we speak of, not only were the inhabitants much less numerous, by reason of the small extent of their city, but it was depopulated by a dreadful plague; so that, to stop if possible the progress of the infection, all houses and shops were shut for fourteen days, and some, where infected persons had died, were pulled down altogether.

In 1504, the tract of ground called the *Burrow Muir*, was totally overgrown with wood, though now it affords not the smallest vestige of having

Battle of Pinkey. The Reformation. Queen Mary.

been in such a state. So great was the quantity at that time, however, that it was enacted by the town-council, that whoever inclined to purchase as much wood as was sufficient to make a new front for their house, might extend it seven feet into the street. Thus the city was in a short time filled with houses of wood instead of stone; by which, besides the inconvenience of having the street narrowed fourteen feet, and the beauty of the whole entirely marred, it became much more liable to accidents by fire; but almost all these are now pulled down; and, in doing this, a singular taste in the masonry which supported them is said to have been discovered.

In 1542, a war with England having commenced, through the treachery of Cardinal Beaton, an English fleet of 200 sail entered the Forth, and having landed their forces, quickly made themselves masters of the towns of Leith and Edinburgh. They next attacked the castle, but were repulsed from it with loss; and by this they were so enraged, that they not only destroyed the towns of Edinburgh and Leith, but laid waste the country for a great way round. These towns, however, speedily recovered from their ruinous state, and, in 1547, Leith was again burned by the English after the fatal battle of Pinkey, but Edinburgh was spared.

Several disturbances happened in this capital at the time of the *Reformation*, none of which greatly affected the city till the year 1570, at which time

Castle of Edinburgh bravely defended by Kirkaldy of Grange.

there was a civil war on account of Queen Mary's forced resignation*. The regent, who was one of the contending parties, bought the castle from the perfidious governor (Balfour) for 5000*l.* and the priory of Pittenweem. He did not, however, long enjoy the fruits of this infamous bargain. Sir William Kirkaldy, the new governor, a man of great integrity and bravery, declared for the Queen. The city in the meantime was sometimes in the hands of one party and sometimes of another, during which contentions, the inhabitants, as may be easily imagined, suffered extremely. In the year 1570 above-mentioned, Queen Elizabeth sent a body of 1000 foot and 300 horse, under the command of Sir William Drury, to assist the king's party. The castle was summoned to surrender; and several skirmishes happened during the course of two years, in which a kind of predatory war was carried on. At last a truce was agreed on till the month of January 1573; and this opportunity the Earl of Morton, now regent, made use of to build two bulwarks across the High Street, nearly opposite to the tolbooth, to defend the city from the fire of the castle.

On the first of January, early in the morning, the governor began to cannonade the city. Some of the cannon were pointed against the fish-market,

* We have thought it unnecessary to detail, in this place, the melancholy history of this unfortunate and much injured Queen. Our limits will not permit us to trace even all the outlines of her unhappy reign, and the principal events that distinguish this period are in almost every one's recollection.

Castle of Edinburgh bravely defended by Kirkaldy of Grange.

then held on the high street ; and the bullets falling among the fishes, scattered them about in a surprising manner, and even drove them up so high in the air, that they fell down upon the tops of the houses. This unusual spectacle having brought a number of people out of their houses, some of them were killed, and others dangerously wounded. Some little time afterwards, several houses were set on fire by shot from the castle, and burned to the ground ; which greatly enraged the people against the governor. A treaty was at last concluded between the leaders of the opposite factions ; but Kirkaldy refused to be comprehended in it. The regent therefore solicited the assistance of Queen Elizabeth, and Sir William Drury was again sent into Scotland with 1500 foot and a train of artillery. The castle was now besieged in form, and batteries raised against it in different places. The governor defended himself with great bravery for 33 days ; but finding most of the fortifications demolished, the well choaked up with rubbish, and all supplies of water cut off, he was obliged to surrender. The English general, in the name of his mistress, promised him honourable treatment ; but the Queen of England shamefully gave him up to the regent, by whom he was hanged ; and his death in a great measure extinguished the remains of Mary's party in Scotland.

Soon after this, the spirit of fanaticism, which somehow or other succeeded the Reformation, produced violent commotions, not only in Edinburgh,

City of Edinburgh punished by James VI.

but through the whole kingdom. The foundation of these disturbances, and indeed of most others which have ever happened in Christendom, on account of religion, was that pernicious maxim of Popery, that the church is independent of the state. It is not to be supposed that this maxim was at all agreeable to the sovereign ; but such was the attachment of the people to the doctrines of the clergy, that king James found himself obliged to compound matters with them. This, however, answered the purpose but very indifferently ; and at last a violent uproar was excited. The King was then sitting in the Court of Session, which was held in the tolbooth, when a petition was presented to him by six persons as deputies, lamenting the dangers which threatened religion ; and being treated with very little respect by one Bruce a minister, his Majesty asked who they were that dared to convene against his proclamation ? He was answered by Lord Lindsay, that they dared to do more, and would not suffer religion to be over thrown. On this the king, perceiving a number of people crowding into the room, withdrew into another without making any reply, ordering the door to be shut. By this the petitioners were so much enraged, that on their return to the church the most furious resolutions were taken ; * and had it not been for the activity

* When the deputies returned to the mob, a *minister* had been reading to them the story of *Haman*. When they reported that the king had refused to listen to their petition, the church was filled

Edinburgh threatened to be razed from the foundation.

of Sir Alexander Home the provost, and Mr Watt, the deacon-convener, who assembled the crafts in his Majesty's behalf, it is more than probable that the door would have been forced, and an end put to his life. The affront was so much resented by the King, that he thought proper to declare Edinburgh an unfit place of residence for the court or the administration of justice. In consequence of this declaration, he commanded the college of justice, the inferior judges, and the nobility and barons, to retire from Edinburgh, and not to return without express licence. This unexpected declaration threw the whole town into consternation, and brought back the magistrates and principal inhabitants to a sense of their duty. With the clergy it was far otherwise. They railed against the king in a most furious manner; and, endeavouring to persuade the people to take up arms, the magistrates were ordered to imprison them; but they escaped by a timely flight. A deputation of the most respectable burgesses was then sent to the king at Linlithgow, with a view to mitigate his resentment. But he refused to be pacified; and on the last day of December 1596, entered the town between two

with threatenings and execrations: Some called out for their arms; some to bring out the *wretch Haman*; others cried, "*the sword of the Lord and of Gideon!*" and rushing out with the most furious impetuosity, surrounded the tolbooth, threatening the king himself, and demanding some of his counsellors, whom they named, that they might tear them to pieces.

Queen Elizabeth interposes in behalf of the Citizens.

rows of his soldiers who lined the streets, while the citizens were commanded to keep within their houses. A Convention of the Estates was held in the Tolbooth, before whom the magistrates made the most abject submissions, but all in vain. The Convention declared one of the late tumults, in which an attack had been made upon the King's person, to be high treason ; and ordained, that if the magistrates did not find out the authors, the city itself should be subjected to all the penalties due to that crime. It was even proposed to raze the town from the foundation, and erect a pillar on the spot where it had stood, as a monument of its crimes. The inhabitants were now reduced to the utmost despair ; but Queen Elizabeth interposing in behalf of the city, the King thought proper to abate somewhat of his rigour. A criminal prosecution, however, was commenced, and the town-council were commanded to appear at Perth by the first of February. On their petition, the time for their appearance was prolonged to the first of March ; and the attendance of thirteen of the common council was declared sufficient, provided they had a proper commission from the rest. The trial commenced on the fifth day of the month, and one of the number having failed in his attendance, the cause was immediately decided against the council. They were declared rebels, and their revenues forfeited.

For fifteen days the city continued in the utmost confusion ; but at last, on their earnest supplication,

King James reconciled to the City of Edinburgh.

and offering to submit entirely to the King's mercy, the community were restored on the following conditions, which they had formerly proffered : That they should continue to make a most diligent search for the authors of the tumult, in order to bring them to condign punishment ; that none of the seditious ministers should be allowed to return to their charges, and no others admitted without his Majesty's consent ; and that in the election of their magistrates they should present a list of the candidates to the King, and his Lords of Council and Session, whom his Majesty and their Lordships might approve or reject at pleasure. To these conditions the King now added some others ; *viz.* That the houses which had been possessed by the ministers should be delivered up to the King : That the clergymen should afterwards live dispersed through the town, every one in his own parish : That the town council house should be appointed for accommodating the court of Exchequer ; that the town should become bound for the safety of the Lords of Session from any attempts of the burgesses, under a penalty of 40,000 merks ; and, lastly, that the town should immediately pay 20,000 merks to his Majesty.

Upon these terms, a reconciliation took place ; which appears to have been very complete, as the King not only allowed the degraded ministers to be replaced, but in 1610 conferred a mark of his favour on the town, by allowing the provost to have a sword of state carried before him, and the magi-

The High-School Boys rise against their Masters.

strates to wear gowns on public occasions. In 1618 he paid his last visit to the city, when he was received with the most extravagant pomp and magnificence.

The events which, during this period, regard the internal police of the city, were principally the following. After the unfortunate battle at Pinkey, the magistrates, probably apprehending that now their power was enlarged by reason of the common calamity, proceeded in some respects in a very arbitrary manner ; forcing the inhabitants to furnish materials for the public works ; enjoining merchants to bring home silver to be coined at the mint ; and ordering lanterns to be hung out at proper places to burn till nine at night, &c. Another invasion from England being apprehended in 1658, the city raised 1450 men for its defence, among whom there are said to have been 200 taylors ; so that their profession seems to have been in a very flourishing state at that time. During the disturbances which happened at the Reformation, it was enacted, that the figure of St Giles should be cut out of the town standard, and that of a thistle inserted in its place. It was likewise enacted, that none but those who professed the reformed religion should serve in any office whatever ; and the better to preserve that extraordinary appearance of sanctity which was affected, a pillar was erected in the North Loch, for the purpose of ducking fornicators ;

In 1595, the boys of the High School rose against their masters ; and such was the barbarism of those

Charles I. visits Edinburgh. Episcopacy.

days, that one of these striplings shot a magistrate with a pistol, who had come with the rest to reduce them to obedience. The reason of the uproar was, that they were in that year refused two vacations, which had been customary in former times : however, they were at last obliged to submit, and ever since have been allowed only one for about six weeks in the autumn. The same year the house of one of the bailies was assaulted by the tradesmen's sons, assisted by journeymen who had not received the freedom of the town : he escaped with his life, but the offenders were banished the city for ever.

In the begining of the reign of Charles I. a perfect harmony seems to have subsisted between the court and the city of Edinburgh ; for in 1627, King Charles I. presented the city with a new sword and gown, to be worn by the provost at the times appointed by his father James VI. Next year he paid a visit to this capital, and was received by the magistrates in the most pompous manner ; but soon after this the disturbances arose which were not terminated but by the death of that unfortunate monarch. These commenced on an attempt of Charles to introduce Episcopacy into the kingdom ; and the first steps towards this was the erection of the three Lothians, and part of Berwick into a diocese, Edinburgh being the Episcopal seat, and the church of St Giles the Cathedral. But though the attempt was given over, the minds of the people were not

Solemn League and Covenant entered into.

to be quieted. Next winter they resorted to the town in such multitudes, that the Privy Council thought proper to publish two acts; by one of which the malcontents were commanded, under severe penalties, to leave the town in 24 hours; and by the other, the Court of Session was removed to Einlithgow. The populace and their leaders were so much enraged by the latter order, that Lord Traquair and some of the bishops narrowly escaped with their lives; and next year (1638) matters became still more serious. For now the king having provoked his subjects throughout all Scotland with the innovations he attempted in religion, Edinburgh was made the general place of rendezvous, and the most formidable associations took place. The famous *Solemn League and Covenant* was entered into at this time (1638); the subscribers to which bound themselves to resist every innovation in the Presbyterian religion, and to renounce and to detest that of the Church of Rome. Each of the towns of Scotland had a copy; and that which belonged to Edinburgh, crowded with 5000 names, is still preserved among the records of the city. Notwithstanding this disagreement, however, the King once more visited Edinburgh in 1641, and was entertained by the magistrates at an expence of 12,000*l.* Scots. It does not appear that, after this, the city was in any way particularly concerned with the disturbances which followed, either throughout the remainder of the reign of Charles I., the Common-

Court of Session discontinues its sittings in Summer.

wealth, or the reign of Charles II. In 1680, the Duke of York, with his Duchess, the Princess Anne, and the whole court of Scotland, were entertained by the city, in the Parliament House, at the expence of 15,000*l.* Scots. At this time it is said that the scheme of building a bridge over the North Loch was projected by the Duke.

From the time when King James VI. paid his last visit to Edinburgh in 1618, till the time of the Union in 1707, a considerable number of private regulations were made by the magistrates; some of them evidently calculated for the good of the city, others strongly characteristic of that violent spirit of fanaticism which prevailed so much in the last century. Among the former was an act passed in 1621, that the houses, instead of being covered with straw or boards, should have their roofs constructed of slate, tiles, or lead. This act was renewed in 1667; and in 1698, an act was passed, regulating their heights also. By this they were restrained to five stories, and the thickness of the wall determined to be three feet at the bottom. In 1684, a lantern with a candle was ordered to be hung out in the first floor of every house, in order to light the streets at night; and there were two coaches, with four horses each, ordered to be bought for the use of the magistrates; but it does not appear how long they continued to be used. In 1681 the Court of Session discontinued their sittings in summer; but as this was found to be attended with

Edinburgh visited by the Plague in 1649.

inconvenience, an act was passed for their restoration, and they have ever since continued to hold two sessions in the year. During the time of the civil war in 1649, the city was visited by the plague, which is the last time that dreadful distemper hath made its appearance in this country. The infection was so violent, that the city was almost depopulated: the prisoners were discharged from the tolbooth, and an act was made for giving one Dr Joannes Politius a salary of 80*l.* Scots per month, for visiting those that were infected with the disease. In 1677, the first coffee-houses were allowed to be opened, but none without a licence: and the same year the town-council regulated the price of penny-weddings; ordaining the men to pay no more than two shillings, and the women eighteen pence; very extravagant prices having been exacted before.

The wisdom of some acts, intended to regulate the dresses, and guard the virtue, of the women, is, perhaps, more doubtful. In 1633, an act of council was passed, by which women were forbidden to wear plaids over their faces, under the penalty of five pounds, and forfeiture of the plaid for the first fault. Banishment was the punishment of the third. The reason assigned for this act was, that matrons were not known from strumpets and loose women, while the plaid continued to be worn over the face. This act was renewed in 1637 and 1638. Succeeding town-councils continued to shew the

The Marquis of Montrose executed.

same regard to these matters ; for, in 1695, they enacted, that no inn-keeper, vintner, or ale-seller, should, for the future, employ women as waiters or servants, under the penalty of five shillings Sterling for each.

The following anecdote may, perhaps, make the virtues of these legislators themselves wear a suspicious aspect. In 1649, the city having borrowed 40,000*l.* Scots, in order to raise their quota of men for his Majesty, the payment of it was absolutely refused by the town-council, when a demand was made for that purpose. That they might not, however, depend entirely upon their own opinion in a matter of such importance, they took that of the General Assembly upon the subject ; and it was determined by these reverend divines, that they were not in conscience bound to pay for an unlawful engagement which their predecessors had entered into. But, in 1652, Cromwell's parliament, who pretended to no less sanctity than they, declared themselves of a very different opinion ; and, on the application of one of the creditors, forced them to repay the sum.

The treatment which the brave Marquis of Montrose met with, likewise fixes an indelible stigma, both upon the magistrates and clergy at that time. Having been put under sentence of excommunication, no person was allowed to speak to him ; or do him the least office of friendship. Being taken prisoner after his defeat at Philiphaugh, he was met

The Revolution. Riots in Edinburgh.

without the city by the magistrates and town-guard, and by them conducted in a kind of gloomy procession through the streets bareheaded, in an elevated cart made for the purpose ; the other prisoners walking two and two before him. At the time of his execution, he was attended by one of the ministers, who, according to his own account, did not choose to return till “ *he had seen him casten o’er the ladder.*”

Upon the accession of William a serious commotion was excited in Edinburgh. No sooner was it known that he was landed in England, than the presbyterians and other friends to the Revolution crowded to Edinburgh from all quarters ; and the adherents of James having retired from the city, the government fell entirely into the hands of the revolutioners. A tumult took place on this occasion ; the drums beat to arms ; and the rioters proceeded to demolish the chapel-royal of Holyroodhouse. They were opposed by a party of about one hundred men, who were stationed in the Abbey, and who adhered to the interests of James. The mob pressing forward, were fired upon by this party. About twelve were killed, and a considerable number wounded. This warm and unexpected reception made them instantly retreat ; but they soon returned with a warrant from some of the lords of the privy-council. They were now headed by the magistrates, town-guard, trained bands, and heralds at arms. Wallace, the captain of the

Magistrates join the Prince of Orange.

party, was required to surrender ; and upon his refusal another skirmish ensued, in which James's party were defeated, some were killed, and the rest were made prisoners. The populace then proceeded to demolish the royal chapel, which they despoiled of its ornaments, and many of the houses of the Roman Catholics were plundered. The earl of Perth's cellars did not escape their fury ; and the wine they found there served the more to inflame their zeal against popery.

The magistrates of the city accommodating themselves to the times, hasted to pay their respects to the prince of Orange ; and those men who had so lately declared to James “ that they would stand “ by his sacred person on all occasions,” and who “ prayed the continuance of his princely goodness “ and care,” were now the first in offering their services to William, “ complaining of the hel- “ lish attempts of Romish incendiaries, and of the “ just grievances to all men, relating to con- “ science, liberty, and property.”

A company for trading to Africa and the Indies was established in Scotland, and favoured with an act of parliament in 1695. The Company being thus formed, 400,000*l.* Sterling were subscribed by gentlemen, natives of Scotland. Six ships of considerable size and force, laden with various commodities, sailed from the Frith of Forth in 1696. News of their arrival and settlement on the isthmus of Darien were received at Edinburgh on the

The Darien Company formed and suppressed.

25th of March 1699, and this event was celebrated by the most extravagant rejoicing. But the English were jealous that this company would rival their trade, and King William used all his influence to crush it both at home and abroad. In consequence of this the Dutch and Spaniards, under the patronage of the English themselves, cruelly suppressed the Scottish colony. Many families were ruined by this event, and the nation in general were excited to a ferment which had almost terminated in very dangerous consequences. Soon after this, a ship belonging to the Scottish African company was seized in the Thames. Solicitations to the English for restitution were disregarded ; but the Scottish government allowed the company to seize, by way of reprisal, a vessel belonging to the East India Company, which had put into the Frith of Forth. Accidental circumstances led to the discovery of a piracy and murder committed by this vessel on the master and the crew of a Scottish vessel in the East Indies. Several persons were tried and condemned for the crime on the 16th of March 1705. But the evidence being by many thought inconclusive, intercessions for royal clemency were made in their behalf. The populace, on the day appointed for the execution, to prevent the interest of courtiers from swaying over justice, assembled round the prison, and in the Parliament Square, where the magistrates and the Scottish privy-council sat deliberating whether the sentence

The Union. . . . The Rebellion of 1715.

should be executed. The magistrates, on being informed of this, assured them, that three of the criminals were ordered for instant execution. The Lord Chancellor, passing from the privy-council in his coach, some one called out, “ that the magistrates had cheated them, and reprieved the criminals.” The fury of the assembled crowd was roused by this assertion, the Chancellor’s coach was stopped at the Tron church, and himself dragged out of it; but he was rescued from this perilous situation by some friends. The criminals were immediately executed to appease the enraged multitude.

The Union in 1707 had almost produced a war between the two kingdoms, which it was designed to unite; and on that occasion Edinburgh became a scene of the most violent disturbances. During the time the act was passing, it was found absolutely necessary for the guards and four regiments of foot to do duty in the city. The disturbances were augmented by the disagreement of the two members of parliament; and, notwithstanding the victory gained at that time by the court party, Sir Patrick Johnston the provost, who voted for the Union, was obliged afterwards to leave the country. In 1715, the city remained faithful to the royal cause, and proper measures were taken for its defence. A committee of safety was appointed, the city-guard increased, and 400 men raised at the expence of the town. The trained bands likewise were order-

An attempt to get possession of the Castle.

ed out, 100 of whom mounted guard every night : by which precautions the rebels were prevented from attempting the city : they however made themselves masters of the citadel of Leith ; but fearing an attack from the duke of Argyll, they abandoned it in the night-time. A scheme was even laid by them for becoming masters of the castle of Edinburgh ; for which purpose they bribed a serjeant to place their scaling ladders. Thus some of the rebels got up to the top of the walls before any alarm was given ; but in the mean time the plot being discovered by the serjeant's wife, her husband was hanged over the place where he had attempted to introduce the rebels. The expence of the armament which the city had been at on this occasion amounted to about 1700l., which was repaid by Government in the year 1721.

The loyalty of this city was still farther remarkable in the year 1725, when disturbances were excited in all parts of the kingdom ; particularly in the city of Glasgow, concerning the excise-bill ; for all remained quiet in Edinburgh, notwithstanding the violent outcries that were made elsewhere : and so remarkable was the tranquillity in the metropolis, that Government afterwards returned thanks to the magistrates for it. In 1736, however, the city had again the misfortune to fall under the royal displeasure, on the following account. Two smugglers having been detected in stealing their own goods out of a custom-house, were condemned to be hang-

Captain Porteous fires upon and kills some of the inhabitants.

ed. The crime was looked upon as trivial ; and therefore a general murmur prevailed among the populace, which was, no doubt, heightened by the following accident. At that time, it had been customary for persons condemned to die to be carried each Sunday to the church, called from that circumstance the Tolbooth Church. The two prisoners just mentioned were conducted in the usual way, guarded by three soldiers to prevent their making their escape ; but having once gone thither a little before the congregation met, one of the prisoners seized one of the guards in each hand, and the other in his teeth, calling out to his companion to run ; which he immediately did, with such speed, that he soon got out of sight and was never heard of afterwards. The person who had thus procured the life of his companion, without regard to his own, would no doubt become a general object of compassion : and, of course, when led to the place of execution, the guard were severely pelted by the mob ; and some of them, according to the testimony of the witnesses who were sworn on this occasion, pretty much wounded. By this, Captain Porteous, who commanded the guard, was so much provoked, that he gave orders to fire, by which six people were killed, and eleven wounded. The evidence, however, even of the fact that the orders to fire were given, appears not to have been altogether unexceptionable ; nevertheless, on this he was tried and condemned to be executed. At that time the king was ab-

Captain Porteous hanged by a Mob.

sent at Hanover, having left the regency in the hands of the Queen ; and the case of the unfortunate Porteous having been represented to her, she was pleased to grant him a reprieve : but such was the inveteracy of the people against him, that they determined not to allow him to avail himself of the royal clemency. On the day that had been appointed for his execution, therefore, a number of people assembled, shut the gates of the city, and burnt the door of the prison, the same which the mob would formerly have broke open in order to murder King James. They then took out Porteous, whom it was found impossible to rescue out of their hands, though every method that the magistrates could take for that purpose, in such a confusion, was made use of. It was even proved, that the member of parliament went to the commander in chief, and requested that he would send a party of soldiers to quell the disturbance, but was absolutely denied his request because he could not produce a written order from the provost to this purport ; which, in the confusion then existing in the city, could neither have been expected to be given by the provost, nor would it have been safe for any person to have carried it about him. Thus the unhappy victim was left in the hands of his executioners ; and, being dragged by them to the place destined for receiving his fate, was hanged on a dyer's sign-post. As they had not brought a rope along with them, they broke open a shop where they knew ropes were to be had ; and

The Magistrates and Lords of Justiciary ordered to London.

having taken out what they wanted, left the money upon the table, and retired without committing any other disorder.

Such an atrocious insult on Government could not but be highly resented. A royal proclamation was issued, offering a pardon to any accomplice, and a reward of 200*l.* to any person who would discover one of those concerned. The proclamation was ordered to be read from every pulpit in Scotland, the first Sunday of every month for a twelvemonth : but so divided were the people in their opinions about this matter, that many of the clergy hesitated exceedingly about complying with the royal order, by which they were brought in danger of being turned out of their livings ; while those who complied became so unpopular, that their situation was rendered still worse than the others. All the efforts of Government, however, were insufficient to produce any discovery ; by which, no doubt, the Court were still more exasperated ; and it was now determined to execute vengeance upon the magistrates and city at large. Alexander Wilson, the provost at that time, was imprisoned three weeks before he could be admitted to bail ; after which, he and the four bailies, with the Lords of Justiciary, were ordered to attend the House of Peers at London. On their arrival there, a debate ensued, whether the Lords should attend in their robes or not ? but at last it was agreed that they should appear in their robes at the bar. This, however, was refused by their Lordships, who insisted that they

The Rebellion of 1745.

should be examined within the bar : upon which the affair of their examination was dropped altogether. A bill was at last passed both houses, by which it was enacted, that the city of Edinburgh should be fined in 2000*l.* for the benefit of Porteous's widow, (though she was prevailed upon to accept of 1500*l.* for the whole), and the provost was declared incapable of ever serving Government again in any capacity whatever. To prevent such catastrophes in time coming, the town-council enacted, that, on the first appearance of an insurrection, the chief officers in the different societies and corporations should repair to the council, to receive the orders of the magistrates for the quelling of the tumult, under the penalty of 8*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for each omission.

In the year 1745, the city of Edinburgh was much alarmed on hearing that Prince Charles Stuart had landed in the west of Scotland. The city walls were immediately repaired, the town-guard augmented, and arms given out to the inhabitants of Leith. A regiment of 1000 men was also raised, and many of the chief citizens came forward as volunteers. On the 13th of September, intelligence was brought that Prince Charles's army had crossed the Forth above Stirling, and were rapidly advancing to the capital. The trained bands were now called out, and both they and the volunteers mounted guard. The money of the public Banks, as well as the most valuable effects of private citizens, were removed to the Castle.

Prince Charles Stuart enters Edinburgh.

On the 15th, advices were received that the van of the rebel army was advanced to Linlithgow, and detachments of it within a few miles of Edinburgh. Upon this, all the forces which were not on necessary duty in the town, together with a regiment of dragoons from Leith, marched out to reinforce Colonel Gardner's regiment at Corstorphine, a place about three miles to the westward of the city. When, however, the advanced guard of the enemy came within sight, the two regiments of dragoons rode off with the greatest precipitation. This retreat of the military threw the citizens into the greatest consternation. A meeting of the principal inhabitants was immediately called, to deliberate on the measures to be taken in this critical state of affairs, at which it was resolved, that as it was impossible to defend the city, commissioners should be appointed to treat with the Pretender, and to obtain the best terms they could. In the midst of their deliberations a letter was produced in council, addressed to the Lord Provost and magistrates, which being ordered to be read, it began as follows ; " Whereas we are now to enter the beloved metropolis of our ancient kingdom of Scotland."— Here the reader was stopped, and asked by whom the letter was signed. Having told that it was superscribed *Charles, Prince of Wales, &c.* it was immediately refused to be heard.

The city was now invested by the Pretender's army ; and on the 17th of September, the Nether-

The Castle fires upon the City.

bow gate being opened to let a coach pass, a party of Highlanders, who had reached the gate undiscovered, rushed in, and took possession of the city. The inhabitants were commanded to deliver up their arms at the palace of Holyrood-house ; a certain quantity of military stores was required from the city, under pain of military execution ; and an assessment of 2s. 6d. upon the pound was imposed upon the *real* rents within the city and liberties, for defraying that expence.

The Pretender's army guarded all the avenues to the castle ; but no signs of hostility ensued till the 25th of the month, when the garrison being alarmed from some unknown cause, a number of cannon were discharged at the guard placed at the West-port, but with very little effect. This gave occasion to an order to the guard at the weigh-house, to prevent all intercourse between the city and castle : then the governor acquainted the provost by letter, that unless the communication was preserved, he would be obliged to dislodge the guard by means of artillery. A deputation was next sent to the Pretender, acquainting him with the danger the city was in, and intreating him to withdraw the guard. With this he refused to comply, and the highland sentinels firing at some people who were carrying provisions into the castle, a pretty sharp cannonading ensued, which set on fire several houses, killed some people, and did other damage. The Pretender then consented to dismiss the guard, and the cannonading ceased.

Prince Charles defeats General Cope.

On the 20th of the same month, the Highlanders marched from their camp at Duddingstone to meet General Cope, who was advancing with his army for the relief of Edinburgh. Early next morning the rebels attacked him near Prestonpans, a village about nine miles from the metropolis, and after a short engagement entirely defeated the king's army, and got possession of all their artillery and baggage. Next day the Pretender with his army returned to their camp at Duddingstone; and a message was immediately sent to the ministers of Edinburgh, desiring them to continue public worship as usual, but without mentioning names when they prayed for the king or royal family. But the pastors of the city had deserted their churches, in order to provide for their personal safety. Only the two ministers of St Cuthbert's church remained; and they, in despite of the enemies' revenge, continued to pray for the King by name, and exhorted the people to stem the torrent of popery and of arbitrary power.

It may here be remarked, as an instance of the *humanity* of Charles, that he permitted none of his followers to offer any insult to these clergymen, although one of them went the length of praying in the following manner: "O Lord, there is a
" young man come amongst us demanding the
" crown of these realms: Disappoint his designs,
" but, O Lord, if it be thy good pleasure, mayest
" thou speedily grant him a *heavenly* crown."

The Highlanders defeated at Culloden.

After the battle of Culloden, the provost of Edinburgh was obliged to stand a very long and severe trial, first at London, and then at Edinburgh, for not defending the city against the rebels ; which, from the situation and extent of the walls, every one must have seen to be impossible.

During this trial, a very uncommon circumstance happened ; the jury having sat two days, insisted that they could sit no longer, and prayed for a short respite. As the urgency of the case was apparent, and both parties agreed, the court, after long reasoning, adjourned till the day following, taking the jury bound, under a penalty of 500*l.* each ; when the court continued sitting two days longer, and the jury were one day enclosed. The event was, that the provost was exculpated.

After the battle of Culloden, the Duke of Cumberland caused fourteen of the rebel standards to be burned at the cross ; that of the Pretender was carried by the common executioner, the others by chimney sweepers ; the heralds proclaiming the names of the commanders to whom they belonged, as they were thrown into the fire. At this time the city of Edinburgh felt a temporary inconvenience from the election of their magistrates not having taken place at the usual time ; so that it became necessary to apply to his Majesty for the restoration of the government of the city. This was readily granted, the burgesses being allowed a poll-tax ; after which an entire new set of magistrates was returned, all of them friends of the House of Hanover,

Regulations made by the Magistrates.

and soon after, the freedom of the city, in a gold box, was presented to the Duke of Cumberland.

With these transactions all animosities betwixt Government and the metropolis of Scotland ceased ; the rest of its history therefore only consists of internal occurrences, the regulations made by its own magistrates for the benefit of the city, their applications to Government for leave to improve it, or the execution of these improvements ; of which we shall now give a brief detail.

In the year 1716, the city first bestowed a settled salary on the provost, in order to enable him to support the dignity of first magistrate. This was at first 300*l.* ; but has since been augmented to 800*l.*, which his lordship still enjoys. In 1718 it was recommended to the magistrates to distinguish themselves by wearing coats of black velvet, for which they were allowed 10*l.* ; but this act being abrogated in 1754, gold chains were assigned as badges of their office, which they still continue to wear. Provost Kincaid happened to die in office in the year 1777 ; which being a very rare accident, perhaps the only one of the kind to be met with in the records of Edinburgh, he was buried with great solemnity, and a vast concourse of people attended.

Tumults have been frequent in Edinburgh, chiefly on account of the dearness of provisions. In 1740, Bell's mills were first attacked by the populace, and afterwards Leith mills ; nor could the rioters be dispersed till the military had fired among them, and wounded three, of whom one died ; and it was

Riots, at different times, in Edinburgh.

found necessary to order some dragoons into the city, in order to preserve tranquillity. In 1742, another violent tumult took place, owing to a custom of stealing dead bodies from their graves for anatomical purposes, which had then become common. The populace beat to arms, threatened destruction to the surgeons, and, in spite of all the efforts of the magistrates, demolished the house of the beadle at St Cuthbert's. In 1756, new disturbances, which required the assistance of the military, took place; the cause was at this time the impressing of men for the war which was then commencing. A disturbance was likewise excited in 1760. This was occasioned by the footmen, who till then were allowed to follow their masters into the playhouse, and now took upon them to disturb the entertainment of the company; the consequence of which was, that they were turned out, and have ever since been obliged to wait for their masters. In 1763 and 1765, the tumults on account of the provisions were renewed; many of the meal-mongers had their houses broken open and their shops destroyed. The magistrates, as usual, were obliged to call in a party of dragoons to quell the disturbance; but, at the same time, to put an effectual stop, as far as was in their power, to these proceedings for the future, they gave security, that people who brought grain or provisions into the market should be secured in their property. Since that time there have been no tumults directly on

A Highland Regiment retires to Arthur's Seat.

the account of provisions ; though, in 1784, a terrible riot and attack of a distillery at Canonmills took place, on a supposition that the distillers enhanced the price of meal by using unmalted grain. The attack was repelled by the servants of the distillery ; but the mob could not be quelled until the sheriff called the soldiers quartered in the castle to his assistance. The same night a party of rioters set out for Ford, a place ten miles to the southward, where there was likewise a large distillery ; which, as there was none to make any opposition, they soon destroyed. One man was killed in this riot at Edinburgh, by the fire of a servant of the distillery, and several of the rioters were afterwards secured and punished.

In the year 1778 and 1779, two very alarming disturbances happened, which threatened a great deal of bloodshed, though happily they were terminated without any. The first was a mutiny of the Earl of Seaforth's Highland regiment, who were at this time quartered in the castle. These having been ordered to embark, for some reason or other unanimously refused, and posted themselves on the top of Arthur's seat, where they continued for two days. Troops were collected to prevent their escape, and the inhabitants were ordered to keep within doors at the first toll of the great bell, which was to be a signal of violence about to take place ; but fortunately all the fears, naturally arising from the expectation of the event, were dissi-

The Popish Mob. Paul Jones.

pated by an accommodation. The other happened on account of the attempt to repeal the penal laws against the papists ; and was much more alarming than the other, as being the effect of a premeditated scheme, and determined resolution to oppose Government. On the 2d of February 1779, a mob assembled in the evening, burned a popish chapel, and plundered another. Next day they renewed their depredations ; destroying and carrying off the books, furniture, &c. of several popish priests, and others of that persuasion. The riot continued all that day, though the assistance of the military was called in ; but happily no lives were lost, nor was there any firing. The city was afterwards obliged to make good the damage sustained by the Catholics on this occasion, which was estimated at 1500*l*.

The well-known Paul Jones, in this year, made his appearance in the Frith of Forth with some armed vessels ; but happily departed without attempting any thing against the harbour or shipping. The alarm excited, however, occasioned a handsome fortification to be afterwards erected, a little to the westward of the town of Leith.

For nearly fifteen years past, Great Britain has been engaged in a war the most important and most destructive ever experienced by Europe.—During this memorable conflict, she has displayed a degree of naval power, and attained to a height of

Reflections on the state of the nation.

naval glory, unequalled in the annals of the world.—The shores of Europe, of Asia, and of Africa, have re-echoed her victorious thunder,—every enemy has disappeared,—and her Navy rides triumphant over the whole ocean.

If, however, this astonishing nation has left far behind every former age, in the number and brilliancy of her naval victories;—although she has nearly doubled the extent of her foreign possessions,—and, what is not the least wonderful, has increased, in nearly a similar ratio, her unrivalled commerce; still she has been under the necessity of making *sacrifices*,—unequalled in the annals of *Finance*;—to support this tremendous, though brilliant, contest—of imposing *burdens* on the subject, confessedly necessary for the public good, yet *ruinous* to individual branches of trade: though not less to be admired for their magnitude, than for the chearfulness with which they have been submitted to by almost every description of British subjects.

The commencement of the war operated fatally on the encreasing opulence and splendour of this city. Trade became universally dull,—a great many bankruptcies,—some of them very unexpected, excited no common degree of distrust throughout the community: The public alarm was greatly increased by numerous Associations of daring miscreants, who held regular meetings for the avowed purpose of overturning the Government, and establishing a Republic on the model of a nation,—which, after

Reflections on the state of the nation.

overthrowing the altar, and subverting the throne,—had recently deified Villiany, and bowed before the altar of Licentiousness!—a nation that, “after
“having denied the existence of a God, came to
“offer adorations at the feet of a *strumpet*!”—At this alarming period, an event happened which seemed to announce that the Sun of British glory was set for ever: That spirit of profligacy and rebellion,—which has for many years pervaded great part of the continent of Europe, and perpetrated such unheard of atrocities in the once flourishing regions of France,—now displayed its daring front in the British Navy. A part of our gallant tars were seduced from their duty by designing villains: The infection spread like lightning throughout all our fleets.—At this ever memorable period, the wisdom and firmness of Government saved the country:—The events are too recent and important to be forgot by our readers. Our brave countrymen have atoned for a temporary delusion by a series of exploits of unexampled heroism. At Edinburgh, the energy and prudence displayed by the late Lord Provost, Mr Thomas Elder, and his colleagues in office, seconded by a great majority of the citizens, arrested the daring progress of those disorganizing clubs that threatened the dissolution of society. A few of the most criminal disturbers of the public peace were consigned to merited punishment. The formation of the corps of *Royal Edinburgh Volunteers* completed the restoration of

Military Force of Edinburgh.

public harmony. The promoters of this laudable Association merit the warmest gratitude of their country ; nor were the zeal and resolution displayed by its members, (many of whom were gentlemen of the first rank and opulence in the city,) less worthy of admiration. To them, and to the other corps (formed nearly upon a similar plan, of the inferior classes of citizens, and whose loyalty and perseverance does them the greatest honour) is this city certainly indebted for the tranquillity it has enjoyed for some years past *. Confidence was now restored to the community :—The Banks once more resumed their former liberal operations :—trade, in general, wore a flourishing aspect :—New

* The following is a List of the Military Corps belonging to the city of Edinburgh :

1. Royal Edinburgh and Mid-Mothian Cavalry.
2. First Regiment Royal Edinburgh Volunteers.
3. Second Regiment Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, First Battalion.
4. Second Regiment Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, Second Battal.
5. Royal Highland Edinburgh Volunteers.
6. Royal Edinburgh Volunteer Artillery.
7. Mid-Lothian Royal Volunteer Artillery.
8. Loyal Edinburgh Spearmen.

The First Regiment is nearly 1000 strong, and receives neither pay nor clothing. The other three regiments of infantry consist of about 500 men each, and receive clothing, and two days pay. The above corps turn out in brigade on grand field days ; and, on some of these occasions, have appeared in the field nearly 4000 strong. As they are then accompanied by the Edinburgh and Mid-Lothian Cavalry, by a formidable train of Artillery, and five complete Bands of Music,—they display a truly grand appearance.

Recent Improvements in Edinburgh.

and elegant buildings began to arise in every part of the city :—The country on all sides rapidly recedes,—fields, and that yesterday “ displayed their “ yellow treasures to the sun,” to-day groan beneath the weight of incumbent edifices.

WE shall close this history of Edinburgh with a general account of the improvements which have lately taken place in it, and of which a particular description will afterwards be given. These began in the year 1753, when the foundation stone of the Exchange was laid ; at which time there was a grand procession, and the greatest concourse of people ever known in Edinburgh. A triumphal arch was erected for the purpose, through which the procession passed, and medals were scattered among the populace. In 1756, the high street was cleared by the removal of the Cross ; though many regretted this, on account of its being a very ancient building. In the middle, it had an unicorn placed on the top of a pillar 20 feet high ; but this fine ornament was broken to pieces, by the giving way of the tackle by which it was attempted to remove it.—It is now erected at D m, once the family seat of Lord Somerville, about four miles from Edinburgh.

In 1763, the first stone of the North Bridge was laid by Provost Drummond ; and, in 1767, an act of Parliament was obtained for extending the royal-

Recent Improvements in Edinburgh.

ty of the city, over the fields to the northward, where the New Town is now situated. About the same time, a spot of ground upon the south side of the town was purchased by a private person for 1200l., which being feued out for building, gave rise to the increase of the town in that quarter; and this proceeded the more rapidly, as the houses built there were free from the dues imposed upon others subject to the royalty. In 1774, the foundation of the Register-Office was laid. In 1785, the project for rendering the access to the town equally easy on both sides, was begun to be put in execution, by laying the foundation of the South Bridge. At the same time, a great improvement was made by reducing the height of the street, several feet all the way from the place where the cross stood to the Netherbow; by which means the ascent is rendered more easy, not only for carriages, but also for persons who walk on foot. Another very useful public work was the formation of an earthen Mound, with the rubbish removed from the improvements in the Old and the New Town, to serve as a passage between the Lawn Market and the west part of the New Town. At the same time, the street was farther cleared by the removal of the town-guard-house, which had long been complained of as an incumbrance. It is still farther in contemplation completely to remove the Luckenbooths and Tolbooth; and when this is ac-

Recent Improvements in Edinburgh.

complished, with other improvements, by which it must necessarily be accompanied, it is to be questioned, whether any city in Britain will be able to vie with Edinburgh in elegance and beauty.

Since the above remarks were written, *Princes Street* and *Queen Street* have been extended to the utmost limits assigned them in the original plan; and two additional streets have been opened to the west of the New Town, which has extended still more rapidly towards the *East*. Two noble streets have been there completely formed:—*Duke Street*, running north from St Andrew's Square, and *York Place*, uniting Queen Street with Leith Walk. Besides these, several streets have been opened still farther east, adorned with elegant buildings.

A few years ago, the Magistrates of Edinburgh, finding that the New Town, extensive as it is, was inadequate to the encreasing opulence and population of the city, purchased the house and grounds of *Bellevue*, and some extensive fields reaching nearly to Drumsheugh; and have begun to lay down another *New Town* that bids fair to eclipse the former in extent and beauty of architecture. On the South of the city the improvements in building are proceeding with nearly equal spirit; and should no calamitous event arrest the progress of Britain's prosperity, it is impossible even to conceive the limits this great city may attain to in the course of a few revolving years.

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

DESCRIPTION OF EDINBURGH.

EDINBURGH * is situated upon a steep hill, rising from east to west, and terminating in a high and inaccessible rock, on which the Castle stands. At the east end or lower extremity of this hill, stands the abbey of Holyrood-house, or King's palace, distant from the Castle upwards of a mile; and, betwixt which, along the top of the ridge, and almost in a streight line, runs the high street. On each side, and parallel to this ridge or hill, is another ridge of ground, lower than that in the middle, and which does not extend so far to the east; that on the south being intercepted by Salisbury-rocks and Arthur's seat, a hill of about 800 feet of perpendicular height; and that on the north by the Caltonhill, considerably lower than Arthur's seat: so that the situation of this city is most singular and romantic; the east or lower part of the town, lying between two hills, and the west or higher part rising up towards a third hill, little inferior in height to the highest of the other two, upon which, as has been observed, the Castle is built, and overlooks the town.

The buildings of the town terminate at the distance of about 200 yards from the castle-gate;

* EDINBURGH is situated in 55° 57' N. lat. and 3° 17' W. long. from Greenwich. It stands in the northern part of the county of Mid-Lothian, about two miles from the æstuary of the Frith.

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

which space affords a most delightful as well as convenient and healthful walk to the inhabitants. The prospect from this spot is perhaps the finest any where to be met with, for extent, beauty, and variety.

In the valley or hollow betwixt the mid and the south ridges, and nearly parallel to the high-street, is another street called the Cowgate; and the town has now extended itself over the south ridge also. Betwixt the middle and the north ridges, was a loch, which, till within these last thirty years, terminated the town on that side. From the highest street towards the loch on the north, and Cowgate on the south, run narrow cross streets or lanes, called wynds and closes, which grow steeper and steeper, the farther west or nearer the Castle; so that, were it not for the closeness and great height of the buildings, this city, from its situation and plan, might naturally be expected to be the best aired, as well as the cleanest in Europe. The former, notwithstanding these disadvantages, it enjoys in an eminent degree; but we cannot compliment it on the latter, notwithstanding every possible means has been used by the magistrates for that purpose.

The steepness of the ascent, makes the access to the high-street from the north and south very difficult; which, no doubt, greatly retarded the enlargement of the city. To remedy this inconvenience of the north, and with a view to extend the town on that quarter; a most elegant bridge has

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

been thrown over the north loch, which joins the north ridge to the middle of the high-street, by so easy an ascent as one in sixteen; and, in pursuance of the design a plan of a New Town to the north was fixed upon, and is now completed, with an elegance and taste that do honour to this country. In like manner, to facilitate the access from the south, a bridge has been thrown over the valley through which the Cowgate runs; which, if not equally elegant with the north bridge, is certainly as convenient.

The gradual increase of the city of Edinburgh may in some degree be understood from the traces of its ancient walls that still remain. James II. in 1450, first bestowed on the community the privilege of fortifying the city with a wall, and empowered them to levy a tax upon the inhabitants for defraying the expence. When the city was first fortified, the wall reached no farther than the present Water-house or Reservoir, on the Castle-hill; from thence to the foot of Halkerston's wynd, just below the new bridge, the city was defended by the North-loch, an inconsiderable morass, which being formerly overflowed, formed a small lake that hath since been drained. From this place to the foot of Leith wynd, it does not appear how the city was fortified; but from the foot of Leith wynd to the Netherbow-port, it was defended only by a range of houses; and when these had become ruinous, a wall was built in their place. The original

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

wall of Edinburgh, therefore, began at the foot of north east rock of the castle. Here it was strengthened by a small fortress, the ruins of which are still to be seen, and are called the *Well-house Tower*, from there being a spring in the neighbourhood. When the wall came opposite to the Reservoir, it was carried quite across the hill, having a gate on the top for making a communication between the town and castle. In going down the hill, it went slanting in an oblique direction to the first angle in going down the West-bow, where was a gate named the *Upper-bow Port*, one of the hooks of which still remains. Thence it proceeded eastward, in such manner as would have cut off not only the Cowgate, but some part of the Parliament house; and being continued so far as the Mint-close, it turned to the north-east, and connected itself with the buildings on the north side of the High-street, where was the original Netherbow-port, about 50 yards west from that which afterwards went by the same name.

Soon after the building of this wall, a new street was formed on the outside of it, named the *Cowgate*, which, in the 16th century, became the residence of the nobility, the senators of the college of justice, and other persons of the first distinction. After the fatal battle of Flowden, however, the inhabitants of the Cowgate became very anxious to have themselves defended by a wall as well as the rest. The wall of the city was therefore extended

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

to its present limits. This new wall begins on the south-east side of the rock on which the castle is built, and to which the town-wall comes quite close. From thence it descends obliquely to the West-port; then ascends part of a hill on the other side, called the *High Riggs*; after which it runs eastward with but little alteration in its course to the Bristo and Potterrow ports, and from thence to the Pleasance. Here it takes a northerly direction, which it keeps from thence to the Cowgate-port; after which the inclosure is completed to the Netherbow by the houses of St Mary's wynd. The original Netherbow-port being found not well adapted for defence, was pulled down, and a new one built in 1571, by the adherents of Queen Mary. In 1606, the late handsome building called the Netherbow-port was erected about 50 yards below the place where the former stood. It was two stories high, and had an elegant spire in the middle; but being thought to encumber the street, and being in a crazy situation, it was pulled down by order of the magistrates in 1764.

In the original wall of Edinburgh, there was, as has been already observed, a port on the Castle-hill. On the extension of the wall, after building the houses in the Cowgate, this gate was pulled down. That in the upper or West-bow stood for a much longer time, and was pulled down within the memory of some persons lately or perhaps still living. Besides these, there was a third, about 50 yards above the head of the Canongate; but whether

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

there were any more, is uncertain. The ports or gates of the new wall were, 1. The *West-port*, situated at the extremity of the Grass-market ; beyond which lies a suburb of the town and a borough of regality, called *Portsburgh*. Next to this is a wicket, struck out of the town wall in 1744, for the purpose of making an easier communication between the town and the public walks in the Meadows, than by *Bristo-port*. The next to this was *Bristo-port*, built in 1515 ; beyond which lies a suburb called *Bristo-street*. At a small distance from Bristo was the *Potterrow-port*, which took this name from a manufactory of earthen ware in the neighbourhood. Formerly it was called *Kirk of Field Port*. Between this and the Cowgate-port stood another, called *St Mary's Wynd Port*, which extended from east to west across the foot of the Pleasance, and which was demolished only since the middle of the last century.—Close to the middle of this stood the *Cowgate port* ; which opened a communication between the Cowgate and St Mary's Wynd, and the Pleasance. The *Netherbow-port* has been already spoken of. At the foot of Leith-wynd was another gate, known by the name of *Leith-wynd-port*, and within it was a wicket giving access to the church or Trinity College, and which still remains. At the foot of Halkerston's wynd was another, which, as well as the former, was built about the year 1560. Both of these were pulled down some years ago, and all the rest in 1785. Another lately remained at the foot of

Description of the Old Town of Edinburgh.

the Canongate, known by the name of the *Watergate*. For 250 years the city of Edinburgh occupied the same space of ground, and it is but very lately that its limits have been so considerably enlarged. In the middle of the 16th century, it is described as extending in length about an Italian mile, and about half as much in breadth ; which answers very nearly to its present limits, the late enlargements only excepted. This space of ground, however, was not at that time occupied in the manner it is at present. The houses were neither so high nor so crowded upon one another as they are now. This was a consequence of the number of inhabitants increasing, which has occasioned the raising of the houses to such an height as is perhaps not to be paralleled in any other part of the world. Till the time of the Reformation, the burying-ground of the city extended over all the space occupied by the Parliament-square, and from thence to the Cowgate. The lands lying to the southward of the Cowgate, were chiefly laid out in gardens belonging to the Convent of Blackfriars, and the church of St Mary-in-the-field. These extended almost from the Pleasance to the Potterrow-port. From the Bristo to the West-port, the ground was laid out in gardens belonging to the Greyfriars. The magistrates, on their application to Queen Mary, obtained a grant of the Greyfriars gardens for a burying-place; for which it was given as a reason, that they were somewhat distant from the town. Here, however, it must be understood, that these gardens

Description of the New Town.

were distant from the houses, and not without the walls ; for they had been inclosed by them long before. In the time of James I. the houses within the walls seem to have been, in general, if not universally, covered with thatch or broom, and not above 20 feet high. Even in the year 1621, these roofs were so common, that they were prohibited by act of Parliament, in order to prevent accidents from fire. In the middle of the last century, there were neither courts nor squares in Edinburgh. The Parliament-close, or square, is the oldest of this kind in this city. Miln's square, James's court, &c. were built long after ; and Argyle's and Brown's squares within these fifty seven years were formed.

NEW TOWN.

THE *New Town* was projected in the year 1752 ; but as the magistrates could not then procure an extension of the royalty, the execution of the design was suspended for some time. In 1767, an act was obtained, by which the royalty was extended over the fields to the northward of the city ; upon which advertisements were published by the magistrates, desiring proper plans to be given in. Plans were given in accordingly, and that designed by Mr JAMES CRAIG, architect, was adopted. Immediately afterwards, people were invited to purchase lots from the town-council ; and such as purchased, became bound to conform to the rules of the plan. In the mean time, however, the town-coun-

Description of the New Town.

cil had secretly reserved to themselves a privilege of departing from their own plan ; which they afterwards made use of in such a manner as produced a law-suit. According to the plan held forth to the purchasers, a canal was to be made through the place where the North Loch had been, and the bank on the north side of it laid out in terraces : but, instead of this, by an act of council, liberty was reserved to the town to build upon this spot ; and therefore, when many gentlemen had built genteel houses in the New-Town, on faith of the plan, they were surprised to find the spot, appointed for terraces and a canal, beginning to be covered with mean, irregular buildings, and work-houses for tradesmen. This deviation was immediately complained of ; but as the magistrates showed no inclination to grant any redress, a prosecution was commenced against them before the Lords of Session. In that court the cause was given against the pursuers, who thereupon appealed to the House of Lords. Here the sentence of the Court of Session was reversed, and the cause remitted to the consideration of their Lordships. At last, after an expensive contest, matters were accommodated. The principal term of accommodation was, that some part of the ground was to be laid out in terraces and a canal ; but the time of disposing it in that manner was reserved to the Lord President of the Court of Session, and the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer. The fall of part of the bridge,

Description of the New Town.

hereafter mentioned, proved a very considerable disadvantage to the New Town; as it necessarily induced a suspicion, that the passage, by means of the bridge, could never be rendered safe. An oversight of the magistrates proved of more essential detriment. A piece of ground lay to the southward of the old town, in a situation very proper for building. This the magistrates had an opportunity of purchasing for 1200l.; which however they neglected, and it was bought by a private person, who immediately feued it out in lots for building, as has been already mentioned. The magistrates then began to see the consequence; namely, that this spot being free from the duties to which the royalty of Edinburgh is subject, people would choose to reside there rather than in the New Town. Upon this they offered the purchaser 2000l. for the ground for which he had paid 1200l.; but as he demanded 20,000l. the bargain did not take place. Notwithstanding these discouragements, the New Town is now completely finished; and, from the advantages of its situation, and its being built on a regular plan, it hath undoubtedly a superiority over any city in Britain. By its situation, however, it is greatly exposed to storms of wind, which, at Edinburgh, sometimes rage with uncommon violence.

It has three streets, almost a mile in length, running from east to west, intersected with cross streets at proper distances. The most northerly, called *Queen's Street*, is 100 feet broad, and commands

Description of the New Town.

an extensive prospect of the Forth, the county of Fife, and the shipping in the river. That called *George-Street*, which is in the middle, is no less than 115 feet wide, and is perhaps unrivalled in the world, for the grandeur of its appearance, the elegance of its architecture, or its exact symmetry. It is terminated at each end by two very elegant and extensive squares; that on the east end is called *St Andrew's-Square*; the other, not yet finished, is named *Charlotte's-Square*. *Prince's Street* is the most southerly, and extends from the northern extremity of the bridge, quite to the west end of the town, fronting the castle, and some of the lofty buildings of the Old Town. There are also two other longitudinal streets, named *Thistle-Street* and *Rose-Street*, the first running between *Queen's Street* and *George's Street*, the second between *Prince's Street* and *George's Street*. These are built in a style of less elegance, for the accommodation of shopkeepers and others. Seven streets intersect the parallelogram at right angles, from *Prince's Street* on the south, to *Queen's street* on the north.

YORK-PLACE. A beautiful street has lately been opened to the east of *Queen-street*, forming indeed a continuation of it, and nearly completing the communication between it and *Leith Walk*,—called *York-Place*: Unlike *Queen-Street*, which enjoys a right of *servitude* on the north, it is composed of two parallel rows of buildings, already complet-

Description of the New Town.

ed, in elegance fully equal, and in extent of prospect even superior, to Queen-Street.

On the west of this street, and in a line with St Andrew's-Street, running to the north, is another double row of fine buildings, called *Duke-Street*: And some hundred yards to the *north* of, but parallel to York-Place, a street is now formed, named *Albany-Row*, which, being situated considerably *lower*, will not materially injure the prospect of the former. Another handsome adjunct to York-Place, on the south, and forming a communication with St James's-Square, is nearly completed, under the name of *Elder-Street*,—from the late worthy chief magistrate of that name.

PICARDY-PLACE. Lying contiguous to York-Place, and interrupting its communication with Leith Walk,—lately stood a row of old buildings, each with its small garden in front, named *Picardy*; —(thus called from a province of France of that name, and originally built for the accommodation of a colony of silk-weavers, who fled from France, upon the revocation of the edict of Nantz.) This spot, purchased by a citizen of Edinburgh from the Honourable the Board of Trustees for the Improvement of the Manufactures and Fisheries of Scotland,—is now nearly covered with handsome buildings, under the name of *Picardy-Place*, and will, with *Union-Street*, &c. complete the communication between the New Town and Leith Walk. It may here be remarked, that this Walk is annually a-

Bellevue. George's Square.

dorned with new buildings, and will very soon form a continuous street betwixt Edinburgh and Leith.

BELLEVUE.

The elegant villa of *Bellevue*, built by the late General SCOTT, with its extensive pleasure-grounds was some years ago purchased by the Magistrates of Edinburgh for the yearly feu of 1000l., redeemable within 20 years, for the sum of 20,000l.; and they have begun to avail themselves of its delightful and commanding situation, in forming *another New Town*, that shall excel the former in all the glories of modern architecture. A considerable part of this plan is already executed; and the remainder is rapidly proceeding in a style of superior elegance. The outline may be seen in the map of Edinburgh prefixed to this work.

GEORGE'S SQUARE.

That tract of ground on the southern side of the town, which the magistrates had neglected to purchase, was quickly feued out for building, by the private proprietor into whose hands it fell. *George's Square*, built upon it, is a very beautiful square, and perhaps possesses some advantages of situation, which renders it even preferable to the New Town as a place of residence. Immediately on the south side of George's Square, there has been likewise built the fine street known by the name of *Buccleugh Place*. George's Square *Assembly Rooms* were suf-

Nicolson's and St Patrick's Squares.

ficiently elegant, and the subscription dancing assemblies in them were rather preferred, by fashionable company, to the assemblies in George's Street, New Town *. *Laurieston*, extending westward from George's Square, presents a range of not inelegant villas, each within its own garden. *Park place*, and *Teviot's Row*, are also handsome adjuncts to George's Square. *Nicholson's Street*, *Bristo Street*, and all the streets and lanes lying between George's Street and the Pleasance, are laid out with tolerable regularity; are crowdedly inhabited by respectable and industrious families; and, being intersected by two of the great roads leading into the east and the south country, exhibit much of the throng and activity which is always expected in great towns.

Nicolson's Square is handsomely built, and is an agreeable place to live in. *St Patrick's Square*, in which Nicholson's Street terminates, at the S. end will probably soon be a place of fashionable residence, from the great English road now entering Edinburgh directly through it. Nicholson's Street itself, making one street with the South and North Bridges, and having the front of the Register Office in full view, at the northern end of the last of these bridges, forms a part of perhaps the most interesting street in the whole town, or in almost any part of Britain. The wavy form

* These Rooms have been lately converted into dwelling-houses.

Description of the Castle of Edinburgh.

which this street receives from a gentle rise and fall at the High Street ; contributes greatly to improve its interesting and agreeable effect to the Eye of Taste.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The most remarkable public buildings in Edinburgh are :

THE CASTLE.

This fortress stands on a high rock, accessible only on the east side. On all others it is very steep, and in some places perpendicular. It is about 300 feet high from its base ; so that, before the invention of artillery, it might well have been deemed impregnable ; though the event shewed that it was not.—The entry to this fortress is defended by an outer barrier of pallisadoes ; within this is a dry ditch, draw-bridge, and gate, defended by two batteries which flank it ; and the whole is commanded by an half-moon mounted with brass cannon, carrying balls of 12 pounds. Beyond these are two gate-ways, the first of which is very strong, and has two portcullises. Immediately beyond the second gate-way, on the right hand, is a battery mounted with brass cannon, carrying balls of 12 and 18 pounds weight.

On the north side are a mortar and some gun-batteries.—The upper part of the Castle contains a half-moon battery, a chapel, a parade for exercise, and a number of houses in the form of a square,



Description of the Castle of Edinburgh.

which are laid out in barracks for the officers. Besides these, there are other barracks sufficient to contain above 2000 men; a powder magazine, bomb proof, a grand arsenal capable of containing 8000 stand of arms; and other apartments for the same use, which can contain 22,000 more; so that 30,000 stand of arms may be conveniently lodged in this castle. On the east side of the square above mentioned, were formerly royal apartments; in one of which King James VI. was born, and which is still shown to those who visit the castle. In another, the regalia of Scotland were deposited on the 16th of March 1607, and are said to be still kept there; but they are never shown to any body. Hence a suspicion has arisen, that they have been carried to London; which is the more confirmed, as the keeper of the jewel-office in the Tower of London shows a crown which he calls that of Scotland; and it is certain, that the door of what is called the *Crown room*, has not been publicly opened since the Union.

In the year 1796, an elegant range of new barracks was erected on the SW. side, capable of accommodating 1000 men; which, though designed with sufficient taste, and on the best plan for a military purpose, have much hurt the picturesque effect of the ancient buildings. Before these were built, the Castle of Edinburgh presented, perhaps, as fine a view to the lover of picturesque, as was any where to be met with.

Edinburgh visited by the Plague in 1649.

The governor of the Castle is generally a nobleman, whose place is worth about 1000l. a-year; and that of the deputy governor, 500l. This last resides in the house appointed for the governor, as the latter never inhabits it. There is also a fort-major, a store-keeper, master-gunner, and chaplain; but as this last does not reside in the castle, the solemnities of religious worship are seldom performed in the chapel. The Parliament-house was formerly included in the great square. and the royal gardens were in the marsh, afterwards called the *North-Loch*; the King's stables being on the south side, where the houses still retain the name, and the place where the barns were still retain the name of *Castle Barns*.

The Castle is defended by a company of invalids, and four or five hundred men, belonging to some marching regiment, though it can accommodate above 2000, as above mentioned; and this number has been of late often kept in it. Its natural strength of situation was not sufficient to render it impregnable, even before the invention of artillery, as we have already observed; much less would it be capable of securing it against the attacks of a modern army well provided with cannon. It could not, in all probability, withstand even for a few hours, a well directed bombardment; for no part but the powder magazine is capable of resisting those destructive machines, and the splinters from the rock on which the cas-

History of the Castle.

tle is built, could not fail to render them still more formidable. Besides, the water of the well, which is very bad, and drawn from the depth of 100 feet, is apt to subside on the continued discharge of artillery, which produces a concussion in the rock.

The history of the castle being identified with that of the city, has been partly given in the preceding pages. In 1174, William I. surnamed the Lion, having been taken prisoner by the English, the Castle, with other strong fortresses, was delivered into the hands of the enemy, as the price of the Sovereign's freedom; but on his marriage with Ermengarde, cousin to the English monarch, this fortress was given back as the queen's dower. In 1239, Alexander III. was betrothed to the daughter of Henry III., and the queen had the Castle assigned for her residence. During the contest between Bruce and Baliol, the Castle was in 1296 taken by the English, and kept by them 30 years; but it was in 1313 recovered by a stratagem, by Sir Thomas Randolph, when Bruce ordered it to be demolished, lest it might be again occupied by the English.

Edward III. on his way from Perth ordered it to be rebuilt and a strong garrison placed in it; but it was in 1341 retaken by Sir W. Douglas by a very ingenious stratagem, (See p. 7.)

The Castle has frequently served both as the *residence* and *the prison* of the Scottish Kings. The Scottish barons, under the feudal system, nearly equalled their kings in riches and in power; and

History of the Castle.

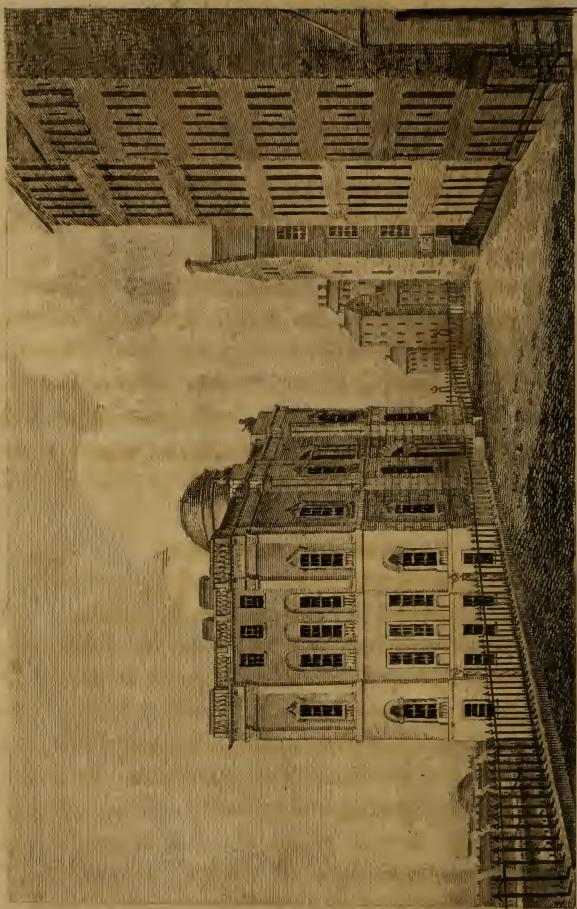
sometimes even possessed themselves of the royal person to sanction their ambitious designs. Thus James II. in 1438, was held here in a sort of honourable durance by Chancellor Crichton ; till by a stratagem contrived by his mother he was conveyed from hence one morning early in a trunk. But he did not long enjoy his enlargement, being soon after taken by a band of armed men, while hunting in the woods of Stirling, and reconveyed to the Castle. It was also here that William the sixth Earl of Douglas was put to death by the same prince, supposed to be by advice of Crichton, who envied his riches, and dreaded his power.

James III. was confined here by his subjects, for the space of nine months, till released in 1482 by the Duke of Albany, assisted by the citizens of Edinburgh, who surprised the Castle.

In the year 1573, the fortress was long gallantly defended by Kirkaldy of Grange against the Earl of Morton and Sir William Drury, as noticed p. 13.

In 1577, though Lord Morton had been obliged to resign the government into the hands of James VI. he still retained possession of the Castle. But a supply of provisions being intercepted by the inhabitants of the city, he was forced to give up this important fortress without resistance, and soon after, by his death, atoned for a life of guilt.

In 1650 the Castle sustained a siege for above 2 months against Cromwell, and at last surrendered on honourable terms. At the Revolution it was long



Bank of Scotland. The Tolbooth.

held by the Duke of Gordon for James with a weak and ill provided garrison: In 1715 an unsuccessful attempt was made by the rebels to surprise this fortress; and in 1745, although the Highlanders were masters of Edinburgh, they did not venture to attack the Castle, being unprovided with heavy artillery.

Proceeding from the Castle you enter the Lawn-market, after passing the *Weigh-house*, an old uncomely building which greatly deforms the street, but which it is hoped will be very soon removed. Here the standard weights of the city are kept: and this institution brings to the city an annual revenue of about 170l. a year.

BANK OF SCOTLAND.

Half way down the Lawn-market, a new street has been opened, communicating by means of the *Earthen Mound* with the New Town. At the bottom of this street, facing the Lawn-market to the S. to the N. commanding a noble prospect of the New Town, the Frith of Forth, and the county of Fife, the proprietors of the Bank of Scotland have erected a noble edifice forming one of the finest ornaments of the city, and worthy of one of the most ancient and respectable corporations of the kind in Scotland.

A little farther down the Lawn-market stands

THE TOLBOOTH,

Erected in 1561, not for the purposes merely of a

The Parliament House.

prison, but likewise for the accommodation of the Parliament and other courts ; but it has since become so very unfit for any of these purposes, that it is now proposed to pull it down, and rebuild it in some other place ; especially as it is very inconvenient in its present situation, on account of its incumbering the street. The Provost is captain of the tolbooth, with a gaoler under him ; and the latter has a monopoly of all the provisions for the prisoners : a circumstance which must certainly be considered as a grievous oppression ; those who are least able to purchase them being thus obliged to do so at the highest price. There is a chaplain who has a salary of 30*l.* a-year.

THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE,

In the great hall of which the Scottish Parliament used to assemble, is a magnificent building. The hall is 123 feet long, and 49 broad, with a fine arched roof of oak, painted and gilded. In this the lawyers and agents now attend the courts, and single judges sit to determine causes in the first instance, or to prepare them for the whole court, who sit in an inner room formerly appropriated to the Privy-council. In a niche of the wall is placed a fine marble statue of President Forbes, erected at the expence of the Faculty of Advocates. There are also full length portraits of King William III. Queen Mary his consort, and Queen Anne, all done by Sir Godfrey Kneller ; also of

The Court of Exchequer. . . . Advocates Library.

George I., John Duke of Argyll, and Archibald Duke of Argyll, by Mr Aikman of Carney. This building was begun to be erected in the year 1632, and completed in 1640, at an expence of 11,600*l.* Sterling. The whole building is 133 feet long by 98 broad in the widest end ; and 60 in the narrowest. In the back part it is 60 feet high ; but on account of the inequality of the ground, it is only 40 in the front. It occupies the S. and W. angles of the square to which it gives its name.

Above stairs are the COURT OF EXCHEQUER and TREASURY CHAMBER, with the different offices belonging to that department ; and below is one of the most valuable *Libraries* in Great Britain, belonging to the *Faculty of Advocates*. Besides 60,000 printed volumes, there are in it many scarce and valuable manuscripts, medals, and coins : here is also an entire mummy in its original chest, presented to the faculty (at the expence of 300*l.*) by the Earl of Morton, late president of the Royal Society. As these rooms are immediately below the hall where the Parliament sat, they are subject to a search by the Lord High Constable of Scotland, ever since the Gun-powder plot ; and this is specified in the gift from the city to the Faculty. The library was founded in the year 1681, by Sir George Mackenzie, lord advocate. Among other privileges, it is entitled to a copy of every book entered in Stationer's Hall. Before the great door is anoble equestrian statue of CHARLES II., the proportions

The Council Chamber....St Giles's Church.

of which are reckoned exceeding just. Over the entrance are the arms of Scotland, with Mercy and Truth on each side for supporters.

The COURT OF SESSION, the supreme tribunal in Scotland, consists of 15 judges, who sit on a circular bench, clothed in purple robes turned up with crimson velvet. Six of these are Lords of the Justiciary, and go the circuit twice a-year; but in this capacity they wear scarlet robes turned up with white sattin.

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

ADJOINING to the Parliament-house, upon the north-west corner, is a large hall, fitted up for the accommodation of the magistrates and town-council: here the council hold their meeting; and a magistrate attends daily, for the discussion of all matters relative to the police of the city.

ST GILES'S CHURCH.

St Giles's Church is a beautiful Gothic building, measuring in length 206 feet: At the west end, its breadth is 110; in the middle, 129; and at the east end, 76 feet. It has a very elevated situation, and is adorned with a lofty square tower, from the sides and corners of which rise arches of figured stonework; these meeting with each other in the middle, complete the figure of an imperial crown, the top of which terminates in a pointed spire. The whole height of this tower is 161 feet.

Account of St Giles, Tutelar Saint of Edinburgh.

This is the most ancient church in Edinburgh. From a passage in an old author called *Simeon Dunelmensis*, some absurdly conjecture it to have been built before the year 854 ; but we do not find express mention made of it before 1359. The tutelar saint of this church, and of Edinburgh, was St Giles, a native of Greece. He lived in the sixth century, and was descended of an illustrious family. On the death of his parents, he gave all his estate to the poor, and travelled into France, where he retired into a wilderness near the conflux of the Rhone with the sea, and continued there three years. Having obtained the reputation of extraordinary sanctity, various miracles were attributed to him ; and he founded a monastery in Languedoc, known long after by the name of *St Giles's*.—In the reign of James II. Mr Preston of Gorton, a gentleman whose descendants still possess an estate in the county of Edinburgh, got possession of the arm of this saint ; which relic he bequeathed to the church of Edinburgh. In gratitude for this donation, the magistrates granted a charter in favour of Mr Preston's heirs, by which the nearest heir of the name of Preston was entitled to carry it in all processions. At the same time, the magistrates obliged themselves to found an altar in the church of St Giles's, and to appoint a chaplain for celebrating an annual mass for the soul of Mr Preston ; and likewise that a tablet, containing his arms, and an account of his pious donation, should be put up in the chapel,

The High Church.

St Giles's was first simply a parish-church, of which the bishop of Landisfarn, or Holy Island, in the county of Northumberland, was patron. He was succeeded in the patronage by the abbot and canons of Dunfermline, and they by the magistrates of Edinburgh. In 1466 it was erected into a collegiate church by James III.

At the Reformation, the church was, for the greater convenience, divided into several parts. The four principal ones are appropriated to divine worship ; the lesser ones to other purposes. The chief of these divisions is called the

NEW CHURCH, OR, HIGH CHURCH.

This church has been some time since repaired and new-seated. There is in it a very elegant and finely ornamented seat intended for his Majesty, with a canopy supported by four Corinthian pillars, decorated in high taste. This seat is used by the King's Commissioner during the time the General Assembly sits. On the right hand is a seat for the Lord High Constable of Scotland, whose office it is to keep the peace within the doors in his Majesty's presence ; it being the duty of the Earl Marshal to do the same without. The seats belonging to the Lords of Council and Session, are on the right of the Lord High Constable ; and on the left of the throne, was a seat for the Lord High Chancellor of Scotland ; but that office being now abolished, the seat is occupied by others. On the left of this sit the Barons of Exchequer ; and, to the left of them, the Lord Pro-

The Tolbooth Church, Haddow's-Hole Church.

vost, Magistrates, and Town-council. The pulpit, King's seat, and galleries, are covered with crimson velvet, with gold and silk fringes.

THE OLD CHURCH.

The central part of St Giles's is fitted up as a place of worship, for the accommodation of the citizens, and called the Old Church.

THE TOLBOOTH CHURCH.

UPON the Reformation, the Presbyterians conceived an immoderate aversion at bestowing the names of any of the saints upon their churches; but distinguished them by some circumstance respecting the time or manner of erection, or vicinity, &c. This church accordingly, which occupies the south-west corner of St Giles's, from its vicinity to the prison-house, was termed the Tolbooth Church: It has lately undergone a thorough repair, and is now very neatly fitted up for public worship.

HADDOW'S-HOLE CHURCH.

THIS occupies the north-west part of St Giles's. It was not fitted up as a place of worship till A. D. 1696. It takes the name of *Haddow's hole* from its having been made a prison in which a gentleman of the name of Haddow was long confined.

AT the time of the Reformation, too, the religious utensils belonging to St Giles's church were seized by the Magistrates. They were,—St Giles's arm, enshrined in silver, weighing five pounds three

Religious Utensils belonging to St Giles's Church.

ounces and a half; and a silver chalice, or communion cup, weighing 23 ounces; the great *eucharist* or communion cup, with *golden weike and stones*; two cruets of 25 ounces; a golden bell, with a heart of four ounces and a half; and a golden unicorn; and a golden pix, to keep the host; a small golden heart with two pearls; a diamond ring; a silver chalice, patine, and spoon, of 32 ounces and a half; and communion table-cloth of gold brocade; *St Giles's coat*, with a little piece of red velvet which hung at his feet; a round silver *eucharist*; two silver censers, of three pounds fifteen ounces: a silver ship for incense; a large silver cross, with its base, weighing sixteen pounds thirteen ounces and a half; a triangular silver lamp; two silver candlesticks, of seven pounds three ounces; other two of eight pounds thirteen ounces; a silver chalice gilt, of twenty ounces and a half; a silver chalice and cross, of seventy-five ounces; besides the priest's robes, and other vestments of gold brocade, crimson velvet embroidered with gold, and green damask.—These were all sold, and part of the money applied to the repairs of the church; the rest were added to the funds of the corporation.

In the steeple of St Giles's church are three very large bells and some small ones. There are also a set of music bells, which play every day betwixt one and two o'clock, or any time in case of rejoicings.

Monuments in St Giles's Church.

The aisle of St Giles's church is fitted up with seats for the General Assembly, who meet here; and there is a throne for his Majesty's Commissioner, with a canopy of crimson silk damask, having the king's arms, embroidered with gold, presented by the late Lord Cathcart to his successors in office.

In this church is a monument dedicated to the memory of Lord Napier, baron of Merchiston, well known as the inventor of logarithms; a second to the Earl of Murray, regent of Scotland, during the minority of James VI., who was shot at Linlithgow, by Hamilton of Bothwell-haugh, a gentleman whom he had grossly injured. Murray was bastard brother to Queen Mary, whom he persecuted with the most unrelenting cruelty, although his too generous sister had loaded him with marks of her bounty. He is justly deemed one of the most hypocritical miscreants which that age produced. A third monument perpetuates the memory of a very different character,—the brave—the loyal Marquis of Montrose,—the pattern of every heroic virtue.

SIGNET-OFFICE.

THERE is a hall in the Writers Court, belonging to the clerks of his Majesty's signet, where there is also an office for the business of the signet. The office of the keeper of the signet is very lucrative, and he is allowed a depute and clerks under him. Before any one enters into this society he

The Royal Exchange The Trustees Office.

must attend the university for two years, and serve five years as an apprentice to one of the society. There is a good library belonging to this hall, which is rapidly increasing, as every one who enters writer to the signet must pay 10l. towards it. He pays also 100l. of apprentice-fee, and 100l. when he enters. Opposite to the Parliament Square, and immediately north from the Cross, stands

THE EXCHANGE,

A large and elegant building, with a court of about 90 feet square in the middle. On the north side is piazzas, where people can walk under cover, the other three sides being laid out in shops: but the merchants have never made use of it to meet in, still standing in the streets as formerly, such is the inveteracy of an old habit. The back part of the building accommodates the *Court of Exchequer*, until their own rooms are finished in the Parliament house. They have here elegant apartments, to which the access is by a hanging stair 60 feet in height. In looking over the window before he ascends this stair, a stranger is surprised to find himself already 40 feet from the ground, which is owing to the declivity on which the Exchange is built. This noble square was begun in 1743, and completed in 1761, at an expence of 31,000l. equal to above 80,000l. of the present day.

The TRUSTEES OFFICE, for the improvement of fisheries and manufactures in Scotland, is in the south

The North Bridge.

west corner of the Exchange ; the fund under their management being part of the equivalent money given to Scotland at the Union. This is distributed in premiums amongst those who appear to have made any considerable improvement in the arts.

About half-way down the High street we meet with

THE NORTH BRIDGE,

Which forms the main passage of communication betwixt the Old and New Town, and was founded in 1763 by Provost Drummond ; but the contract for building it was not signed till August 21. 1765. The architect was William Mylne, who agreed with the town-council of Edinburgh to finish the work for 10,140*l.* and to uphold it for 10 years. It was also to be finished before Martinmas 1769 ; but on the 3d of August that year, when the work was nearly completed, the vaults and side-walls on the south fell down, and five people were buried in the ruins. This misfortune was occasioned by the foundation having been laid, not upon the solid earth, but upon the rubbish of the houses which had long before been built on the north side of the high-street, and which had been thrown out into the hollow to the northward. Of this rubbish there were no less than eight feet between the foundation of the bridge and the solid earth. Besides this deficiency in the foundation, an immense load of earth, which had been laid over the vaults and arches, in order to raise the bridge to

The North Bridge . . . The Earthen Mound.

a proper level, had no doubt contributed to produce the catastrophe above-mentioned. The bridge was repaired by pulling down some parts of the side-walls and afterwards rebuilding them; strengthening them in others with chain-bars; removing the quantity of earth laid upon the vaults, and supplying its place with hollow arches, &c. The whole was supported at the south end by very strong buttresses and counterforts on each side; but on the north it has only a single support. The whole length of the bridge, from the High-street in the Old Town, to Prince's-street in the New, is 1125 feet; the total length of the piers and arches is 310 feet. The width of the three great arches is 72 feet each; of the piers 13 one half feet: and of the small arches, each 20 feet. The height of the great arches, from the top of the parapet to the base, is 68 feet; the breadth of the bridge within the wall over the arches, is 40 feet, and the breadth at each end 40 feet. The expence of completing the whole amounted to 18,000*l.* Sterling. On the southern extremity of this bridge stands the *General Post Office* for Scotland; a neat plain building, with a proper number of apartments for the business, and a house for the secretary.

THE EARTHEN MOUND.

The communication betwixt the old and the new towns by means of this fine bridge, having been found insufficient for those who inhabited the western districts, and another bridge being found

The Theatre.

necessary, it was proposed to fill up the valley occasionally with the rubbish dug out in making the foundations of houses in the New Town ; and so great was the quantity, that this was accomplished, so as to be fit for the passage of carriages, in little more than four years and a half. This communication begins at Hanover Street and joins the Old Town at the back of James's Court, Lawn Market. It is about 800 feet in length and 92 feet in height, containing above 400,000 cubic yards of earth, or 1,350,000 cart-loads. Had it been paid for at the moderate rate of 6d. per cart, it would have amounted to 33,750l. Sterling ; but it cost the city nothing except the expence of spreading it.

THE THEATRE

STANDS opposite to the Register Office, in the middle of Skakespeare Square, at the east end of the N. Bridge. The building is plain on the outside, but elegantly fitted up within, and is generally open about three times in the week, and when full, will draw about 150l. a-night ; so that the manager generally finds himself well rewarded when he can procure good actors.

Entertainments of the dramatic kind came very early into fashion in this country. They were at first only representations of religious subjects, and peculiarly designed to advance the interests of religion ; the clergy being the composers, and Sunday the principal time of exhibition. They soon degre-

Account of the Scottish Stage.

nerated from their original institution ; and the plays, instead of being calculated to inspire devotion, became filled with all manner of buffoonry and indecency. After the Reformation, the Presbyterian clergy complained of these indecencies ; and being actuated by a spirit of violent zeal, anathematized every kind of theatrical representation whatever. King James VI. compelled them to pass from their censures against the stage ; but in the time of Charles I. when fanaticism was carried to the utmost length at which perhaps it was possible for it to arrive, it cannot be supposed that stage plays would be tolerated. It seems, however, that amusements of this kind were again introduced at Edinburgh, about the year 1684, when the Duke of York kept his court there. His residence at Edinburgh drew off one half of the London company, and plays were acted in Edinburgh for some time. The misfortunes attending the Duke of York, however, and the establishment of the Presbyterian religion, (the genius of which is unfavourable to amusements of this kind) soon put a stop to the progress of the stage, and no theatrical exhibition was heard of in Edinburgh till after the year 1715. The first adventurer was Signora Violante, an Italian, remarkable for feats of strength, tumbling, &c. In this way she first exhibited in a house at the foot of Carruber's Close, which has since been employed by different sectaries for religious purposes. Meeting with good success, she

Account of the Scottish Stage.

soon invited a company of comedians from London; and these being also well received, Edinburgh continued for some years to be entertained by a strolling company, who visited it annually. Becoming at last, however, obnoxious to the clergy, they were, in 1727, prohibited by the magistrates from acting within their jurisdiction. But this interdiction was superseded by the Court of Session, and the players continued to perform as usual.

Still, however, theatrical entertainments were but rare. The town was visited by itinerant companies only twice in two or three years. They performed in the Taylors-hall in the Cowgate; which, when the house was full, would have drawn, (at 2s. 6d. for pit and boxes, and 1s. 6d. for the gallery) 40l. or 45l. a-night*. About this time an act of Parliament was passed, prohibiting the exhibition of plays, except in a house licensed by the king. Of this the presbytery of Edinburgh immediately laid hold; and at their own expence brought an action of the statute against the players. The cause was by the Court of Session decided against the players; who thereupon applied to Parliament for a bill, to enable his Majesty to license a theatre

* In the year 1736 the celebrated ALLAN RAMSAY built, at his own expence, the first regular theatre for dramatic performances which Edinburgh possessed. It was situated in Carrubber's close: But Ramsay was soon compelled to divest himself of his character of *manager of a theatre*, so powerful was the spirit of fanaticism at that period,

Account of the Scottish Stage.

in Edinburgh. Against this bill petitions were presented in 1739, to the House of Commons, by the magistrates and town-council, the principal and professors of the university, and the dean of guild and his council; in consequence of which the affair was dropped. All this opposition, however, contributed in reality to the success of the players; for the spirit of party being excited, a way of evading the act was easily found out, and the house was frequented more than usual, insomuch that the Taylors-hall was found insufficient to contain the number of spectators.

The comedians now fell out among themselves, and a new playhouse was erected in the Canongate, in the year 1746. The consequence of this was, that the old one in the Taylors-hall became entirely deserted; and, through bad conduct, the managers of the new theatre soon found themselves greatly involved. At last, a riot ensuing through dissensions among the performers, the playhouse was totally demolished. When the extension of the royalty over the spot where the New Town is built was obtained, a clause was likewise added to the bill, enabling his Majesty to license a theatre in Edinburgh. This was obtained, and thus the opposition of the clergy for ever silenced. But, notwithstanding this, the high price paid by the managers to the patentee, being no less than 500 guineas annually, prevented them effectually from decorating the house as they would otherwise have done, or

The Amphitheatre.

even from always retaining good actors in their service; by which means the success of the Edinburgh theatre has not been so great as might have been expected. It was for several years of late under the management of Mr Stephen Kemble; who for the most part entertained the town with a good selection of dramatic pieces, and a respectable company of actors; some of the most eminent performers from the capital, annually visiting Edinburgh, and exhibiting on the Scottish stage in spring or summer.

In the year 1799, the late Mr Jackson became Patentee of the Theatre, by purchase, and Mr Kemble retired from the Scottish stage in July 1800, after a succession of fortunate theatrical campaigns.

The prices of admittance at the theatre are, for the boxes 4s., the pith 3s., the first gallery 2s., and the upper gallery 1s.

THE AMPHITHEATRE.

This building is erected not far from the theatre on the road to Leith; and was opened in 1790 for equestrian exhibitions, pantomime entertainments, dancing and tumbling. The circus was 60 feet in diameter, and easily held about 1500 spectators. The entertainments of this place were not excelled even in London. The great attention of the managers to procure the best performers in this way, received for a while the warm support of the people of Edinburgh. The amphitheatre was afterwards

Corri's Rooms. The Register Office.

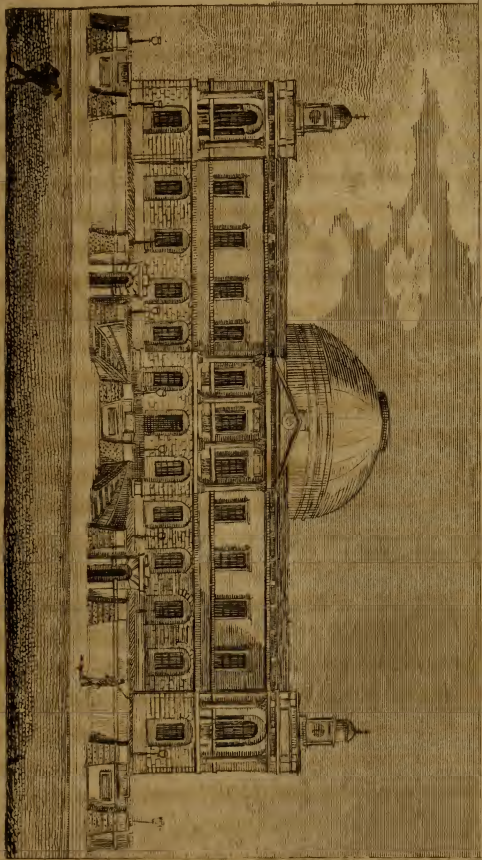
employed as a riding school, where ladies and gentlemen were taught equestrian exercises. Mr Kemble attempted, one season, unsuccessfully, to convert it into a theatre. But, in the years 1795-6, pantomime, dancing, and tumbling again began to receive that encouragement in Edinburgh which they at first found.

Some years ago a new set of performers began to exhibit in this house which was originally dedicated to *unholy* and *licentious* sports,—viz. Scottish and English *itinerant preachers*, whose popular eloquence, (on the weekly return of the Christian Sabbath,) kindled in the hearts of their numerous audience a flame of devotion that rose nobly superior to those weak prejudices that sometimes shock weak minds, on the recollection of the profane uses to which the place was usually applied during the rest of the week.

Mr Corri has lately purchased this building, and has converted it into a suite of elegant rooms (now *Corri's Rooms*,) where the only regular Concerts that are held in Edinburgh, are performed, under the direction of the same gentleman, who brings annually from London the most celebrated performers of that capital. Splendid balls and promenades are also held here during the winter season.

THE REGISTER OFFICE.

This work was first suggested by the late Earl of Morton, Lord Register of Scotland, with a view to



Front of the REGISTER OFFICE

don

The Register Office.

prevent the danger which attended the usual method of keeping the public records. In former times, indeed, these suffered from a variety of accidents. Edward I. carried off or destroyed most of them, in order to prevent any marks of the former independency of the nation remaining to posterity. Afterwards, Cromwell spoiled this nation of its records, most of which were sent to the tower of London. At the time of the Restoration, many of them were sent down again by sea ; but one of the vessels was shipwrecked, and the records brought by the other have ever since remained in the greatest confusion. The Earl of Morton, taking this into consideration, obtained from his Majesty a grant of 12,000*l.* out of the forfeited estates, for the purpose of building a Register-office, or house for keeping the records, and disposing them in proper order. The foundation was laid on the 17th of June 1774, by Lord Frederick Campbell, Lord Register, Mr Montgomery of Stanhope, Lord Advocate, and Mr Miller of Barskimming, then Lord Justice-clerk, (afterwards Sir Thomas Miller, Baronet, and Lord President of the Court of Session) ; three of the trustees appointed by his Majesty for executing the work. The ceremony was performed under a discharge of artillery, in presence of the Judges of the Courts of Session and Exchequer, and in the sight of a multitude of spectators.

The front of the building directly faces the bridge, extends from east to west 200 feet, and is 40 feet back from the line of Prince's street ; the breadth, includ-

The Register Office.

ing the diameter of the dome is 120 feet. In the middle of the front is a small projection of three windows in breadth. Here is a pediment, having in its centre the arms of Great Britain, and the whole is supported by four Corinthian pilasters. At each end is a tower projecting beyond the rest of the building, having a Venetian window in front, and a cupola in the top. The front is ornamented from end to end with a beautiful Corinthian entablature. In the centre of the building is a dome of wooden work, covered with lead. The inside forms a saloon 50 feet diameter and 80 high, lighted at top by a copper window 15 feet in diameter. Round the whole is a hanging gallery of stone, with an iron balustrade, which affords conveniency for presses in the walls for keeping the records. The whole number of apartments is 97; all of which are vaulted beneath, and warmed with fire places. This building, which is perhaps the most beautiful of the late Mr Adams's designs, has been executed in a substantial manner, in about 16 years, at the expence of near 40,000*l.* and is one of the principal ornaments of the city. A serjeant's guard is placed here from the Castle, for the further protection of the records. A statue of his present Majesty, one of the finest works of the Hon. Mrs Damer, and by her presented for the decoration of this elegant edifice, now stands in the dome. The Lord Register has the direction of the whole, and the principal clerks of Session are his deputies. These have a great number of clerks un-

The South Bridge. Tron Church.

der them, for carrying on the business of the Court of Session. The Lord-Register is a minister of state in this country. He formerly collected the votes of the Parliament of Scotland, and still collects those of the Peers at the election of the sixteen.

THE SOUTH BRIDGE

Is directly opposite to the other, so as to make but one street, crossing the *High Street* at right angles. It consists of 19 arches of different sizes; only one of them is visible, viz. that over the Cowgate; and even this is small, in comparison of those of the North Bridge, being no more than 30 feet wide and 31 feet high. On the south it terminates at the University on one hand, and the Royal Infirmary on the other. The *Tron Church*, properly called *Christ Church*, stands at the northern extremity, facing the High Street, and in the middle of what is now called *Hunter's Square*, in memory of the late worthy chief magistrate who planned these improvements, but did not live to see them executed. On the west side of this square the Merchant Company have built a very handsome hall for the occasional meeting of their members. This bridge was erected with a design to give easy access to the great number of streets and squares on the south side, as well as to the country on that quarter from whence the city is supplied with coals. The street on the top is supposed to be as regular as any in Europe; every house being of the same dimen-

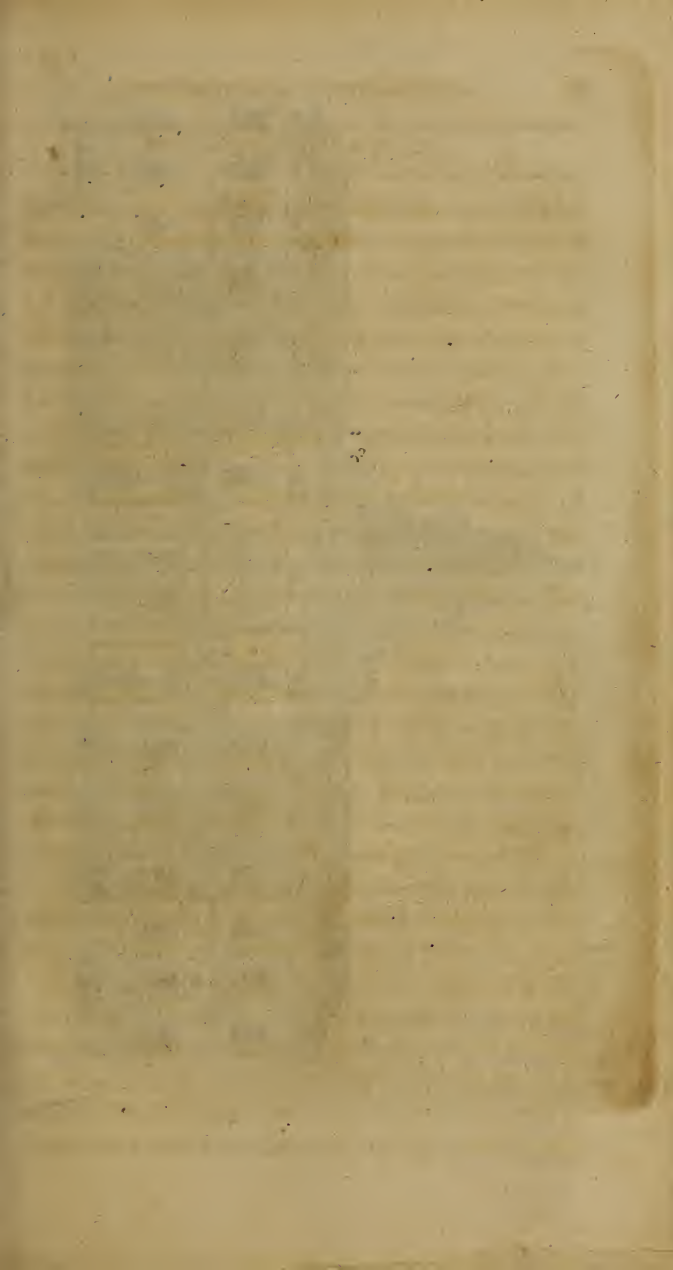
The Concert Hall.

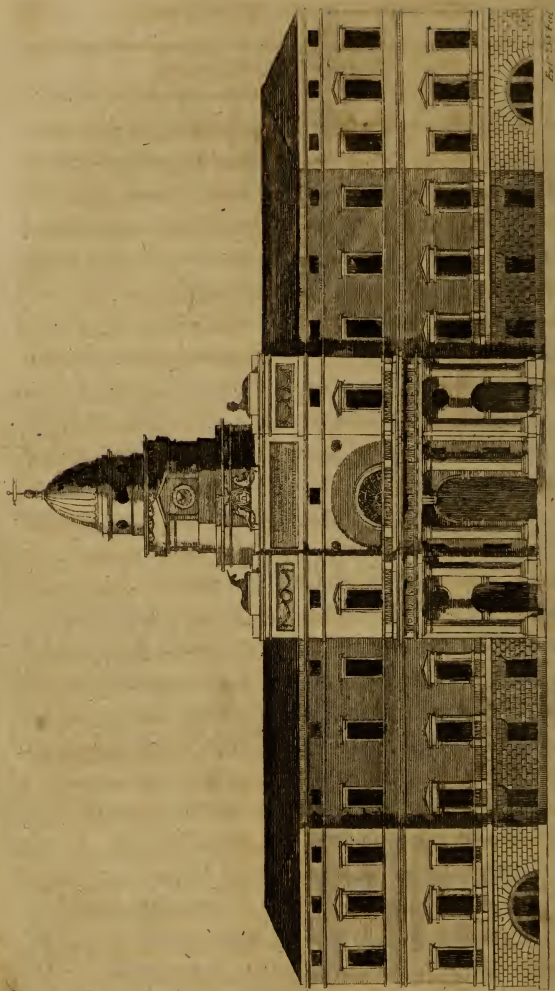
sions, excepting that between every two of the ordinary construction there is one with a pediment on the top, in order to prevent that sameness of appearance which would otherwise take place. So great was the rage for purchasing ground on each side of this bridge for building, that areas sold by public auction at 50l. per foot in the front. By this the community will undoubtedly be considerable gainers; and the proprietors hope to indemnify themselves for their extraordinary expence by the vast sale of goods supposed to attend the shops in that part of the town; though this seems somewhat more dubious than the former.

THE CONCERT HALL.

The *Concert Hall*, called also *St Cecilia's Hall*, stands in Niddry's street, on the east side of the South Bridge; and was built in 1762, after the model of the great opera-theatre in Parma. The plan was drawn by Sir Robert Mylne, architect of Blackfriars bridge. The musical room is of an oval form, the ceiling being a concave elliptical dome, lighted from the top by a lantern. The seats are ranged in the form of an amphitheatre; and are capable of containing 500 persons, besides leaving a large area in the middle of the room. The orchestra was at the upper end, and terminated by an elegant organ.

The musical society was first instituted in the year 1728. Before that time, several gentlemen





The Concert Hall. The University.

had formed a weekly club at a tavern kept by one Steil, a great lover of music and a good singer of Scots songs. Here the common entertainment consisted in playing on the harpsichord and violin the concertos and sonatas of Handel, just then published. The meeting, however, soon becoming numerous, they instituted, in the year above mentioned, a society of 70 members, (it afterwards increased to 200,) for the purpose of holding a weekly concert. The finest compositions of Handel were here frequently performed; and the Scottish melodies received all that pathos and melting tenderness of which they are so susceptible, in the hands of those admirable performers, Pinto, Puppo, Tenducci, Fischer, Salomon, Jarnowick, Cramer, and the younger Puppo. We must add, with sincere regret, that the entertainments of St Cecilia's hall have for some years past been neglected; the hall has been lately disposed of, and is now occupied as a place of worship by the baptists; and the sublime compositions of Handel have given way to the weekly concerts of Scottish church music, where harmony and melody are alike unknown.

THE UNIVERSITY.

In the year 1581, a grant was obtained from King James VI. for founding a College or University within the city of Edinburgh; and the citizens, aided by various donations from well disposed persons, purchased a situation for the intended new

The University.

college, consisting of part of the areas, chambers, and church of the collegiate provostry and prebends of the Kirk-a-field, otherwise called *Templum et Prefectura Sanctæ Mariæ in campis*, lying on the south side of the city. Next year a charter of confirmation and erection was obtained also from King James VI. from which the College to be built, did afterwards derive all the privileges of an University.

In 1583, the provost, magistrates, and council, the patrons of this new institution, prepared the place in the best manner they could for the reception of teachers and students; and in the month of October the same year, Robert Rollock, whom they had invited from a professorship in St Salvator's College in the university of St Andrews, began to teach in the new college of Edinburgh. Other professors were soon after elected; and in the year 1586, Rollock was appointed Principal of the College, and the following year also professor of divinity, immediately after he had conferred the degree of M. A. on the students who had been under his tuition for four years. The offices of principal and professor of divinity remained united till the year 1620.

In 1617, King James VI. having visited Scotland after his accession to the crown of England, commanded the principal and regents of the College of Edinburgh to attend him in Stirling castle; and after they had there held a solemn philosophi-

The University.

cal disputation in the royal presence, his Majesty was so much satisfied with their appearance, that he desired their college for the future might be called *The College of King James*, which name it still bears in all its diplomas.

For several years the College consisted only of a principal, who was also professor of divinity, with four regents or professors of philosophy. Each of these regents instructed one class of students for four years, in Latin, Greek, school logic, mathematics, ethics, and physics, and graduated them at the conclusion of the fourth course. A professor of humanity or Latin was afterwards appointed, who prepared the students for entering under the tuition of the regents; also a professor of mathematics, and a professor of Hebrew or oriental languages. It was not till about the year 1710 that the four regents began to be confined each to a particular profession; since which time they have been commonly styled *Professors of Greek, Logic, Moral Philosophy, and Natural Philosophy*. The first medical professors appointed at Edinburgh, were Sir Robert Sibbald, and the celebrated Dr Archibald Pitcairne, in the year 1685*. These, however, were only titu-

* DR PITCAIRNE, the friend of Bellini, the preceptor of BOERHAAVE, the master of MEAD, died in 1713. His unremitting exertions to advance medical science in Edinburgh, will be remembered with gratitude by the friends of humanity; and his excellence in other departments of literature, will long be the boast of his country.

The University.

lar professors : and for 30 years afterwards, a summer-lecture on the officinal plants, and the dissection of a human body, once in two or three years, completed the whole course of medical education at Edinburgh. In 1720 an attempt was made to teach the different branches of physic regularly ; which succeeded so well, that, ever since, the reputation of the University as a school for medicine hath been constantly increasing, both at home and abroad.

The College is endowed with a good Library, founded in 1580, by Mr Clement Little, advocate, who bequeathed it to the town council. They ordered a house to be built for it in the neighbourhood of St Giles's church, where it was for some time kept under the care of the eldest minister of

“ Ergo vale, lux Scotigenum, princepsque medentum,

“ Musarum columnen deliciæque, vale !”

The medical school of Edinburgh certainly owes its celebrity, in the first instance, to this illustrious man. It has been farther promoted by a succession of celebrated men ;—by the MUNROES, father and son, by the late CULLEN, by BLACK, and by the GREGORYS ;—men whose memory will be held in veneration while medical science continues to alleviate the pains and distresses of human life—till

“ The sun himself

“ Grow dim with age, and nature sink in years.”

The University of Edinburgh has been also highly distinguished in almost every other department of science. For who is ignorant of the illustrious names of Maclaurin, Robertson, Blair, Fergusson, Robinson, Stewart, Playfair, and many others,—whom no age or country have ever surpassed ; and who have extended the fame of this celebrated University to every corner of the habitable globe ?

The University.

Edinburgh, but was afterwards removed to the College. This collection is enriched, as well as others of a similar kind, by receiving a copy of every book entered in Stationer's Hall, according to the statute for the encouragement of authors. Besides this, the only fund it has is the money paid by all the students at the University, except those of divinity, upon their being matriculated; and a sum of 5l. given by each professor at his admission. The amount of these sums is uncertain, but has been estimated at about 150l. annually. The students of divinity, who pay nothing to this library, have one belonging to their own department.

Here are shown two skulls, one almost as thin as paper, pretended to be that of the celebrated George Buchannan, and by way of contrast, another, said to have been that of an idiot, which is excessively thick. Here also are preserved the original protest against the council of Constance for burning John Huss and Jerom of Prague in 1417; the original contract of Queen Mary with the Dauphin of France, and some valuable coins and medals. There are also several portraits; particularly of Robert Rollock the first Principal of the University, King James VI., Lord Napier the inventor of logarithms, John Knox, Principal Carstairs, Thomson the author of the Seasons, &c. The museum contains a good collection of natural curiosities, the number of which is daily increasing. The

The University.

anatomical preparations and those of the professor of midwifery, are worth notice.

The celebrity of this College has been greatly owing to the uniform attention of the magistracy in filling up the vacant chairs with men of known abilities in their respective departments. Greatly to their honour, too, they have been no less attentive to the instituting of new professorships from time to time, as the public seems to demand them.

There are about 50 bursaries in this University, and these do not exceed 12*l. per annum* each.

The number of students during the session of the College, from October 10th 1789, to May 6th 1790, was nearly as follows :

Students of Divinity,	-	-	130
—— ——— Law,	-	-	100
—— ——— Physic,	-	-	440
General Classes	-	-	420
			—————

In all 1090

Since that year it has continually rather increased.

The old buildings being very mean, unfit for the reception of so many professors and students, and quite unsuitable to the dignity of such a flourishing University, as well as inconsistent with the improved state of the city, the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, set on foot a subscription for erecting a new structure, according to the design of Robert Adam, Esq. architect. Part of the old fabric has

The University.

in consequence been pulled down, and the new building is already in considerable forwardness. The foundation-stone was laid on Monday the 16th of November, with great solemnity, by the Right Hon. Francis Lord Napier, Grand Master Mason of Scotland, in the presence of the Right Hon. the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of the city of Edinburgh, with the Principal, Professors, and Students of the University of Edinburgh, a number of Nobility and Gentry, and the Masters, Officers, and Brethren, of all the lodges of Free Masons in the city and neighbourhood, who marched in procession from the Parliament-house down the High-street. After the different masonic ceremonials were performed, two crystal bottles, cast on purpose at the glass-house of Leith, were deposited in the foundation stone. In one of these were put different coins of the present reign, each of them being previously enveloped in chrystal, in such an ingenious manner, that the legend on the coins could be distinctly read without breaking the chrystal. In the other bottle were deposited seven rolls of vellum, containing a short account of the original foundation and present state of the University, together with several other papers ; in particular the different newspapers, containing advertisements relative to the college, &c. and a list of the names of the Principal and Professors, also of the present Lord Provost and Magistrates, and officers of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The bottles being carefully sealed up, were

The University.

covered with a plate of copper wrapt in block tin : upon the under side of the copper were engraved the arms of the city of Edinburgh and University, likewise the arms of Lord Napier, Grand Master of Scotland.

The east and west fronts of this pile are to extend 255 feet, and the south and north 358. There are to be houses for the Principal, and six or seven of the professors. The library is to be a room of 160 feet in length ; the museum of natural curiosities is to be of the same extent ; and the dimensions of the hall for graduations and public exercises is about 90 feet by 30. There are likewise to be an elegant and most convenient anatomical theatre ; and a chemical laboratory ; and large rooms for instruments and experiments for the professors of mathematics, natural philosophy, and agriculture. The whole, when finished, if not the most splendid structure of the sort in Europe, will however be the completest and most commodious ; and it will do the utmost honour to the genius of the architect, and the munificence of the public *. Upwards of 30,000*l.* have been subscribed, received, and expended. Large sums, yet smaller than was expected, have been received from abroad. The re-

* A ground plan of the new building, with elevations of the east and south fronts, designed by R. Adam, Esq. ; and most beautifully engraved in aquatinta, by Mr Jukes, price 12*s.* 6*d.* the set, are to be had at T. Brown's shop.

The Botanical Garden.

cessities of a war, and of our political interests in the system of Europe, have hitherto prevented Parliament from granting any sum of money to aid the completion of this noble undertaking. It is not more than half finished; but, it is hoped, that, when the prosperity of the country shall be renewed with the return of peace, public spirit will not suffer this edifice to remain long in its present state.

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN,

BELONGING to the University, is situate at the distance of about a mile, on the road between Edinburgh and Leith. It consists of about five acres of ground; and is furnished with a great variety of plants, many of them brought from the most distant quarters of the globe. The professor is botanist to the king, and receives a salary of 120*l.* annually for the support of the garden. A monument, to the memory of the celebrated Linnæus, was erected here by the late Dr Hope, who first planned the garden, and brought it to perfection.

The University of Edinburgh, like the others in this kingdom, sends one member to the General Assembly of the church of Scotland; and the widows of the professors have a right to annuities from the funds of those of ministers, the professors contributing to that fund, and being trustees on it along with the presbytery of Edinburgh.

The Public Dispensary The Royal Infirmary.

THE PUBLIC DISPENSARY.

THE *Public Dispensary* was founded by Dr Duncan in 1776, for the poor whose diseases are of such a nature as to render their admission into the infirmary either unnecessary or improper. Here the patients receive advice *gratis* four days in the week ; a register is kept of the diseases of each, and of the effects produced by the medicines employed. All patients not improper for Dispensary treatment are admitted on the recommendation of the elder or church-warden of the parish wherein they reside. The physicians officiate and gives lectures *gratis* ; so that the apothecary, who lodges in the house, and the medicines, are the only expences attending this useful institution. The expence of the whole is defrayed by public contributions, and from a small annual fee paid by the students who attend the lectures. It is under the direction of a president, two vice-presidents, and 20 directors, elected annually from among the contributors. One guinea entitles a contributor to recommend patients, and to be a governor for two years ; and five guineas gives the same privilege for life.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY.

THE *Royal Infirmary* was first thought of by the College of Physicians in 1725. A fishing company happening to be dissolved at that time, the partners contributed some part of their stock towards the es-



ROYAL INFIRMARY



The Royal Infirmary.

establishment of the infirmary. A subscription was also set on foot, and application made to the General Assembly to recommend the same throughout their jurisdiction. This was readily complied with, and the Assembly passed an act for that purpose, but very little regard was paid to it by the clergy. Notwithstanding this, however, 2000*l*. being procured, a small house was opened for the reception of the sick poor in August 1729. In 1736, the contributors towards the Infirmary were erected into a body corporate by royal statute : and after this, the contributors increased very considerably ; by which means the managers were enabled to enlarge their scheme from time to time ; and at last to undertake the present magnificent structure, the foundation of which was laid in 1738. During 25 years, when this institution was in its infancy, Lord Hopetoun bestowed upon it an annuity of 400*l*. In 1750, Doctor Archibald Ker bequeathed to this incorporation 200*l*. a-year in the island of Jamaica. In 1755, the Lords of the Treasury made a donation to it of 8000*l*. which had been appointed for the support of invalids. In return for this the managers of the Infirmary constantly keep 60 beds in readiness for the reception of sick soldiers. In the year 1791 sick servants began to be admitted into the Infirmary, and a ward was fitted up for their reception.

This institution, however, was more indebted to George Drummond Esq. ; than to any other per-

The Royal Infirmary.

son. He was seven times chosen Lord Provost of Edinburgh ; and always directed his attention to the improvement of the city, particularly to that of the Royal Infirmary. So sensible were the managers of their obligations to him, that, in their hall, they erected a bust of him with this inscription, " George Drummond, to whom this country is " indebted for all the benefits which it derives from " the Royal Infirmary."—In 1748, the stock of the Infirmary amounted to 5000*l.*; in 1755, to 7076., besides the estate left by Doctor Ker ; in 1764, to 23,426. ; and in 1778, to 27,074*l.*

The Royal Infirmary is attended by two physicians chosen by the managers, who visit their patients daily in presence of the students. All the members of the college of surgeons are also obliged to attend in rotation, according to seniority. If any surgeon declines attendance, he is not allowed to appoint a depute ; but the patients are committed to the care of one or four assistant surgeons, chosen annually by the managers. From the years 1762 to 1769, there were admitted 6261 patients ; which number, added to 109 who were in the hospital at the commencement of the year 1762, made in all 6270. Of these, 4395 were cured ; 348 died ; the rest were either relieved, dismissed incurable, for irregularities, or by their own desire, or remained in the hospital. From 1770 to 1775, the patients annually admitted into the Infirmary were, at an average, 1567 ; of whom 63 died. In 1776 there were ad-

The Royal Infirmary.... The High School.

mitted 1668, of whom 57 died ; and in 1777, the number admitted was 1593, and of deaths 52. In the year 1786, there were admitted 1822 patients : of these 1354 were cured : 166 relieved ; 84 died ; and the rest were either relieved or dismissed incurable,—for irregularities,—or by their own desire.

The building consists of a body and two wings, each of them three stories high, with an attic storey and garrets, and a very elegant front. The body is 210 feet long, and 36 broad in the middle, but, at the ends only 24 feet broad. There is a bust of King George II. in a Roman dress, above the great door. The wings are 70 feet long, and 24 broad. In the centre is a large stair-case, so wide that sedan-chairs may be carried up. In the different wards, 228 patients may be accommodated, each in a different bed. There are cold and hot baths for the patients, and for the citizens ; and to these last, the patients are never admitted.

There are likewise rooms for the managers, a consulting room for the physicians and surgeons, a waiting-room for the students, and a theatre that will hold upwards of 200 people, for performing chirurgical operations. Two wards are set apart for the patients whose cases are supposed to be the most interesting ; and the physicians give lectures upon them.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The earliest institution of a grammar-school in

The High School.

Edinburgh seems to have been about the year 1519. The whole expence bestowed upon the first building of this kind amounted only to about 40*l.* Sterling. Another building, which had been erected for the accommodation of the scholars in 1578, continued, notwithstanding the great increase of of their number, to be used for that purpose till 1777 : The foundation of the present new building was laid on the 24th of June that year by the late Sir William Forbes, Grand Master of the Free Masons. The total length of this building is 120 feet from south to north ; the breadth in the middle 36, at each end 38 feet. The great hall where the boys meet for prayers, is 68 feet by 30. At each end of the hall is a room of 32 feet by 20, intended for libraries. The building is two stories high, the one 18, the other 16 feet in height. The expence of finishing the whole was reckoned at 4000*l.*

There are a rector and four masters, who teach above 600 scholars annually. The salaries are trifling, and the fees depend upon the reputation they have obtained for teaching ; and as this has been for some years very considerable, the rector's place is supposed to be worth not less than 400*l.* *per annum*, a master's about half that sum. An annual examination takes place in the month of August, when the boys perform their exercises in presence of the magistrates and ministers of the city. Premiums, chiefly in books, are adjudged to those boys who have made the greatest progress in

The Mint... The English Chapel

their studies ; and to the *dux* of the highest class a gold medal, with a suitable inscription, is presented.

There are four established English schools in Edinburgh ; the masters of which receive a small salary, upon express condition that they shall not take above five shillings *per* quarter from any of their scholars. There are likewise many other private schools in Edinburgh for all languages ; and, in general, every kind of education is to be had here in great perfection, and at a very cheap rate.

THE MINT.

The *Mint* is kept up by the articles of Union, with all the offices belonging to it, though no money is ever struck here. It stands in the Cowgate, a little to the west of the English church ; but is in a ruinous state, though still inhabited by the different officers, who have free houses ; and the bellman enjoys his salary by regularly ringing the bell. This place, as well as the Abbey of Holyrood-house, is an asylum for debtors, and was built in 1574.

THE ENGLISH CHAPEL.

The *English Chapel* stands near the Cowgate-port, and was founded on the 3d of April 1771, by General Adolphus Oughton, the grand-master of Scotland, and Commander in chief of his Majesty's forces in Scotland. It is a plain handsome building, neatly fitted up in the inside, and some-

The English Chapel... St Peter's, &c.

what resembling the church of St Martin's in the fields, London. It is 90 feet long, and 75 broad, and ornamented with an elegant spire of considerable height. It is also furnished with an excellent bell, formerly belonging to the chapel-royal at Holyrood-house, which is permitted to be rung to assemble the congregation; an indulgence not granted to the Presbyterians in England. The expence of the building was defrayed by voluntary subscription; and, to the honour of the country, people of all persuasions contributed to this pious work. It has already cost 7000*l.* and will require 1000*l.* more to finish the portico. This church is built in a singular manner, viz. from south to north, and the altar-piece stands on the east side. Two clergymen officiate here, of whom the first has 200*l.* the other 150*l.* This Chapel is furnished with an excellent organ; and on the ceiling above the altar, is an admirable painting of the Ascension by the late RUNCIMAN.

There is another episcopal chapel in Blackfriars Wynd, which was founded by baron Smythe, in the year 1722. There are also two other meetings of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, viz. *St Peter's Chapel*, in Drummond Street, and *St Mary's* in Carruber's Close. For some time these were subjected to penal laws, as they refused to take the oaths to government, or mention the present royal family in their public prayers; but of late they have conformed, and had their conduct approved of

The Canongate Church.

by his majesty ; so that now every denomination of Christians in Britain pray for the family of Hanover. About 2 years ago the Scottish Bishops and Clergy held a convocation at Lawrencekirk, and unanimously subscribed the *thirty-nine* Articles of the Church of England ; after which the English Clergy officiating in Scotland, with a few exceptions, agreed to hold communion with and acknowledge the authority of the Scottish Bishops* : so that now the English, Scottish and Irish Bishops, hold communion with each other ; whilst those English clergymen officiating in Scotland, and refusing to hold communion with the Scottish Bishops, have no title to the character of Episcopalians, but must be deemed *Independents*, in the strictest sense of the word.

THE CANONGATE CHURCH.

Agreeably to a royal mandate, issued by James VII. in consequence of an application made by the inhabitants of the Canongate, the magistrates of Edinburgh bought a piece of ground for a church and church-yard, and began to build a church A. D. 1688. This building is of the figure of the cross. The front of it is decently ornamented, and, on its top, are the head and horns of a deer, with a cross erect, over the top of the forehead, between

* There are seven Bishops in Scotland, viz. those of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dunkeld, Brechin, Aberdeen, Moray, and Elgin.

The Palace of Holyrood-House.

the horns, emblematical of the ridiculous legend which is told of King David I. * founder of the Abbey of Holyrood-house. The expence of this building was about 2400l. Sterling. There are two ministers of this church : The King is patron of the first, and the trades and proprietors of houses in the Canongate, of the second.

THE PALACE OF HOLYROOD-HOUSE.

This palace, though much neglected, is the only royal habitation in Scotland that is not entirely in ruins. It is a handsome square of 230 feet in the inside, surrounded with piazzas. The front, facing the west, consists of two double towers joined by a beautiful low building, adorned with a double ballustrade above. The gateway in the middle is decorated with double stone columns, supporting a cupola in the middle, representing an imperial crown, with a clock underneath. On the right hand is the great stair-case, which leads to the council-chamber and the royal apartments. These are large and spacious. In one of them (the great gallery) the Scots Peers meet to elect 16 of their number to represent them in Parliament : This gallery is on the left hand, and measures 150 feet by 27 and a half. It is adorned with the supposed portraits of all the kings of Scotland painted by De Witt. In the apartments of the Duke of Hamilton, which he possesses as hereditary keeper of the palace, Queen

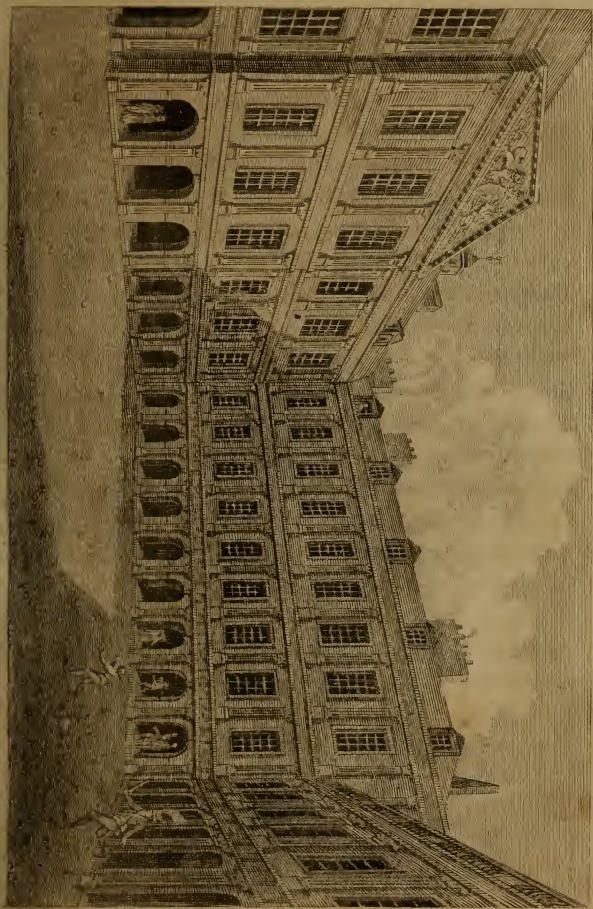
* See Account of Holyrood-House.



J. Scott sc.

CHAPEL & PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE.





The Palace of Holyrood-house.

Mary's bed of crimson damask bordered with green fringes and tassels, is still to be seen, but almost reduced to rags. Here also strangers are shown a piece of wainscot hung upon hinges, which opens to a trap-stair communicating to the apartments below. Through this passage, Darnley and the other conspirators rushed in to murder the unhappy Rizzio, on the 9th of May 1566. The Queen, when this outrage happened, was at supper in an adjoining apartment, with the Countess of Argyll, her secretary Rizzio, and a few other domestics. In spite of the tears and entreaties of the unhappy Queen, who was then far gone with child, Rizzio was torn from her feet, and before he could be dragged through the next apartment, was pierced to death with fifty six wounds*. Towards the outward doors of these apartments are large dusky spots on the floor, said to be occasioned by Rizzio's blood, which could never be washed out. In the lodgings assigned to Lord Dunmore is a picture by Van Dyke, esteemed a masterly performance, of King Charles I. and his Queen going a-hunting. There are likewise the portraits of their present Majesties at full length by Ramsay. The lodgings above the

* This cowardly murder was directed by Mary's husband the brutal Darnley, and perpetrated by a ruffian called Lord Ruthven. Darnley is said to have entertained a ridiculous jealousy of this deformed and sickly Italian. Some writers, even in *our times*, affect to believe the existence of an intrigue revolting to common sense.

The Palace of Holyrood house.

royal apartments are occupied by the Duke of Argyll, as heritable master of the household.

The Royal apartments were lately repaired, and furnished in a style of princely elegance, for the reception of the unfortunate exiles of the Royal Family of France, Monsieur Le COUNT d'ARTOIS, and his sons the Dukes of D'ANGOULEME and BERRY, with many other French noblemen. These illustrious strangers, after a residence of three years in the palace of the Scottish Monarchs, left this country in the year 1799 impressed with the most lively sentiments of gratitude for the generous and respectful treatment they had experienced on the part of the Magistrates and inhabitants of the City of Edinburgh, and from the most distinguished characters amongst the Scottish Nobility*.

During his residence in Holyrood house his Royal Highness held frequent levees, many of which were extremely brilliant, and excited in the minds of the inhabitants some faint ideas “ of the days of other

* Before his Royal Highness left Edinburgh, he transmitted the following letter to the Right Honourable the Lord Provost and Magistrates :---

[TRANSLATION.]

EDINBURGH, *August 5. 1799.*

Gentlemen,--Circumstances relative to the good of the service of the King my brother making it requisite that I should leave this city where, during my residence, I have constantly received the most distinguished marks of attention and regard ; I should reproach myself were I to depart without expressing to its respectable Magistrates, and through them to the inhabitants at large, the grateful sense with

The Palace of Holyrood-house.

“ years,” when the cheering presence of its beloved Monarchs communicated splendour and animation to this ancient metropolis, inspiring it with a proud consciousness of the remote antiquity and hereditary independence of the Scottish Throne.

The circumstance, too, of the heir-apparent to one of the most powerful sovereignties in Europe, compelled to seek refuge in a remote corner of the British Empire, afforded, at once, a striking example of the mutability of human granduer,—of the liberality of sentiment that distinguishes the present race of Scotsmen *,—and of the exalted generosity of the British nation, which, triumphing over inveterate enmities, protected and entertained, with royal mu-

which my heart is penetrated for the noble manner in which they have seconded the generous hospitality of his Britannic Majesty. I hope I shall one day have it in my power to make known, in happier moments, my feelings on this occasion, and express to you more fully the sentiments with which you have inspired me, the sincere assurance of which time only permits me to offer you at present.

(Signed) CHARLES PHILIP.

*To the Lord Provost and Magistrates }
of the City of Edinburgh.*

* The Great Gallery was fitted up as a Chapel for his Royal Highness, where MASS was publicly celebrated by the French priests without the least opposition from the clergymen or people of Edinburgh:—Whereas, during the reign of the lovely and unfortunate MARY, the barbarous inhabitants of this city, instigated by the inflammatory harangues of KNOX and his accomplices, more than once threatened the life of their Sovereign, whilst endeavouring to avail herself of a privilege not denied the lowest criminals in these days.

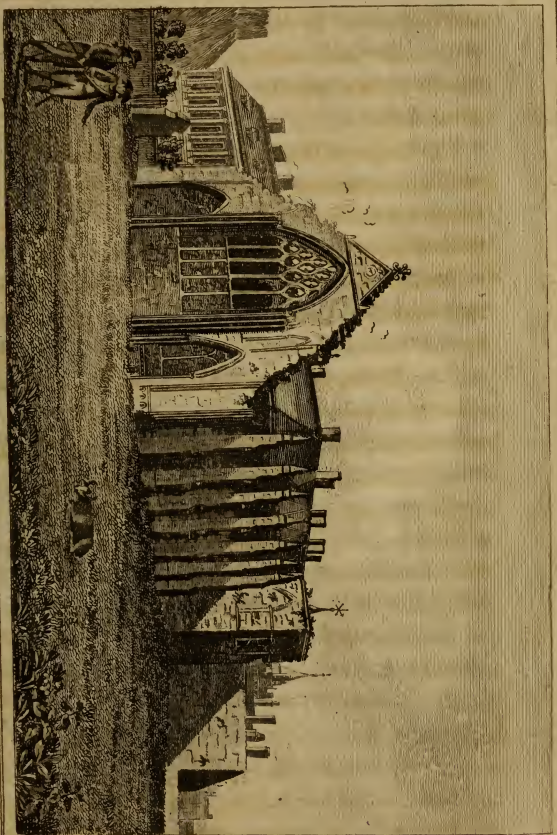
The Palace of Holyrood-house. . . . The Abbey.

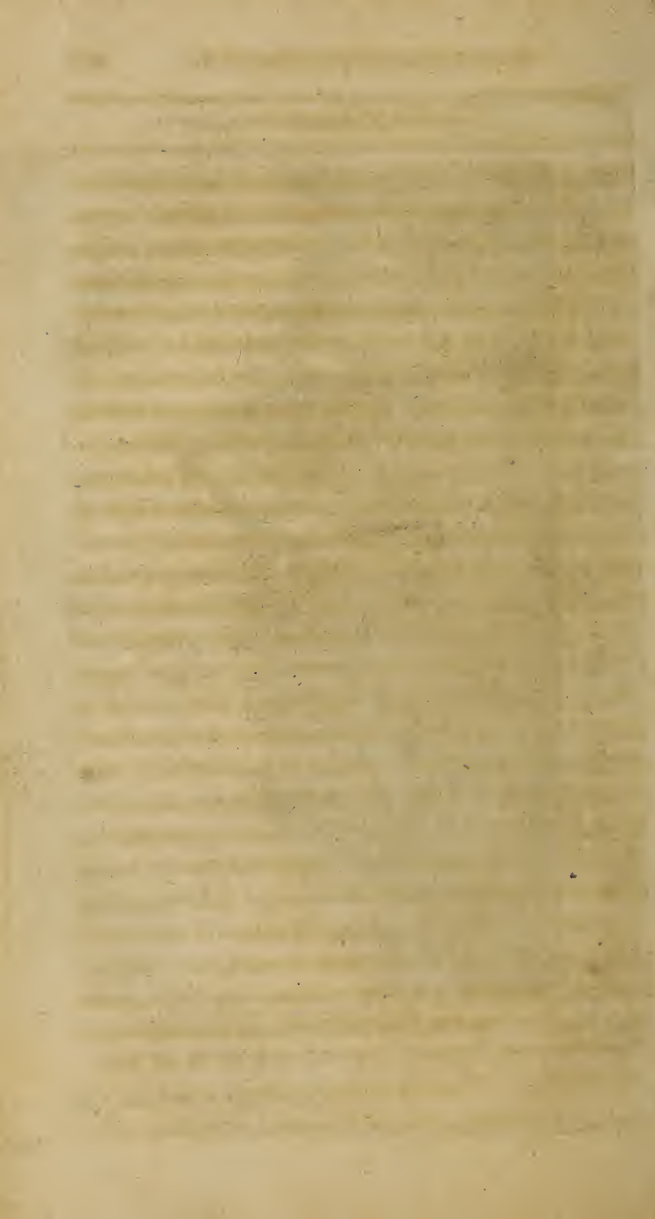
nificence, the ill-fated relics of a once powerful family, that had, with unvarying perseverance, pursued a policy highly inimical to the interests of Great Britain.

The front of this palace is two stories high ; the roof flat ; but at each end the front projects, and is ornamented with circular towers at the angles. Here the building is much higher, and the rest of the palace is three stories in height. The northwest towers were built by James V. for his own residence ; his name is still to be seen below a niche in one of these towers. During the minority of Queen Mary, this palace was burned by the English ; but soon after repaired and enlarged beyond its present size. At that time it consisted of five courts, the most westerly of which was the largest. It was bounded on the east by the front of the palace, which occupied the same space it does at present ; but the building itself extended further to the south. At the north-west corner was a strong gate, with Gothic pillars, arches, and towers, part of which was not long ago pulled down. Great part of the palace was burnt by Cromwell's soldiers ; but it was repaired and altered into the present form after the Restoration. The fabric was planned by Sir William Bruce, a celebrated architect, and executed by Mr Robert Mylne. The environs of the palace afford an asylum for insolvent debtors ; and adjoining to it is an extensive park, all of which is a sanctuary.

The *Abbey Church* was formerly called the *Monas-*

NORTH EAST VIEW of the RUINS of the ABBEY CHURCH of HOLYROODHOUSE





The Abbey of Holyrood-house.

tery of Holyrood-House, and built by King David I. in 1128. He gave it the name of *Holyrood-House*, in memory, as is said, of his deliverance from an enraged hart, by the miraculous interposition of a cross from heaven. This monastery he gave to the canons regular of St Augustine: on whom he had bestowed the church of Edinburgh Castle, with those of St Cuthberts, Corstorphin, and Liberton, in the shire of Mid-Lothian; and of Airth in Stirling-shire; the priories of St Mary's Isle in Galloway, of Blantyre in Clydesdale, of Rowadill in Ross, and three others in the Western Isles. To them he also granted the privilege of erecting a burgh between the town of Edinburgh and the Church of Holyrood-house. From these canons their burgh had the name of *Canon-gate*, which it still retains. In this new burgh they had a right to hold markets. They had also portions of land in different parts, with a most extensive jurisdiction, and a right of trial by duel, and fire and water ordeal. They had also certain revenues payable out of the exchequer, and other funds, with fishings, and the privilege of erecting those mills on the water of Leith which still retain the name of *Canon-mills*. Other grants and privileges were bestowed by succeeding sovereigns; so that it was deemed the richest religious foundation in the world. At the Reformation, its annual revenues were 442 bolls of wheat, 610 bolls of bear, 560 bolls of oats, 500 capons, two dozen of hens, as many salmon, 12 loads of salt: besides a great

The Abbey of Holyrood-house.

number of swine, and about 250*l.* Sterling in money. At the Reformation, the superiority of North Leith, part of Pleasance, the barony of Broughton, and the Canongate, were vested in the Earl of Roxburgh; and were purchased from him by the Town council of Edinburgh in 1636. In 1544, the church suffered considerably by the invasion of the English; but was speedily repaired. At the Restoration, King Charles II. ordered the church to be set apart as a chapel-royal, and prohibited its use as a common parish church for the future. It was then fitted up in a very elegant manner. A throne was erected for the Sovereign, and 12 stalls for the Knights of the Order of the Thistle; but as mass had been celebrated in it in the reign of James VII. and it had an organ, with a spire, and a fine chime of bells on the west side, the Presbyterians, at the Revolution, entirely destroyed its ornaments, and left nothing but the bare walls.—Through time, the roof of the church became ruinous, on which the Duke of Hamilton represented its condition to the Barons of Exchequer, who ordered it to be repaired, but the architect and mason who were employed, covered the roof with thick flag stones, which soon impaired the fabric; and on the second of December 1768, the roof fell in. Since that time, no attempt has been made to repair it, and it is now entirely fallen into ruins.

The ruins of this church, however, are still sufficient to discover the excellency of the workmanship.

The Observatory.

Here some of the kings of Scotland are interred ; and an odd kind of curiosity has been the occasion of exposing some bones, said to be those of Lord Darnley, and the body of a Countess of Roxburgh, who died several hundred years ago. The bones were very large, and the body of the supposed Countess was almost complete in all its parts,—the features distinct,—the hair of the head tolerably fresh,—the flesh in general entire,—but extremely hard and dry. The chapel was fitted up in the elegant manner above mentioned by James VII. ; but such was the enthusiasm of the mob, that they not only destroyed the ornaments, but tore up even the marble pavement.

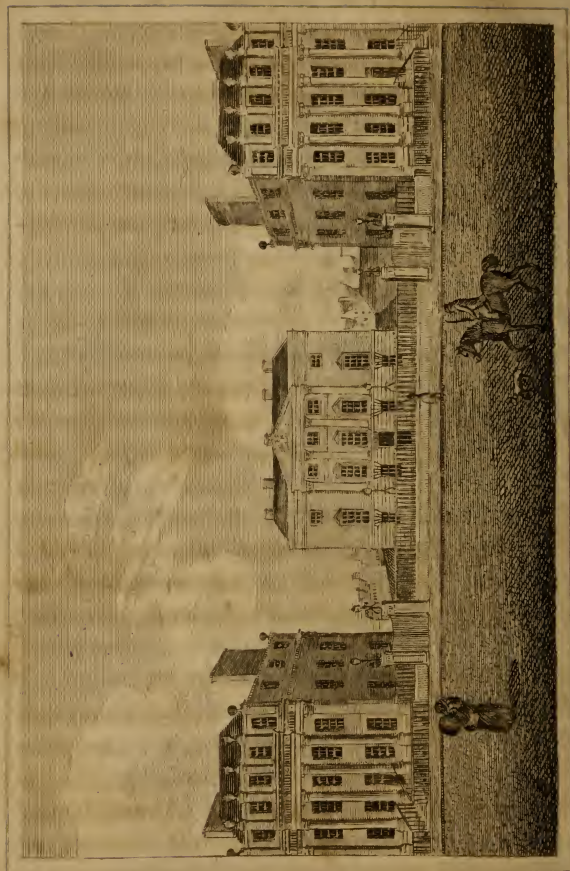
THE OBSERVATORY.

The *Observatory* is built on the top of the *Calton-hill*. The scheme for erecting it was first adopted in the year 1736 : but the disturbances occasioned by the Porteous mob prevented any thing from being done towards the execution of it at that time. The Earl of Morton in 1741 gave 100*l.* for the purpose of building an observatory, and appointed Mr M'Laurin, professor of mathematics, together with the principal and some professors of the university, trustees for managing the sum. Mr M'Laurin added to the money above mentioned the profits arising from a course of lectures which he read on experimental philosophy : which, with some other small sums, amounted to 300*l.* : but Mr M'Lau-

The Observatory.

rin dying, the design was dropped. The famous *Shortt*, well known for his improvements in the construction of reflecting telescopes, in conjunction with his brother, now attempted the erection of the building : but the progress of the unfortunate Observatory was again stopped by the death of Shortt in 1768. Afterwards the money was put into the hands of two persons who became bankrupts ; but a considerable dividend being obtained out of their effects, the principal and interest, about the year 1776, amounted to 400*l*. A plan of the building was made out by Mr Craig, architect ; and the foundation-stone was laid by Mr Stodart, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, on the 25th of August 1776. About this time, however, Mr Adam the architect happening to come to Edinburgh, conceived the idea of giving the whole the appearance of a fortification, for which its situation on the top of the Calton-hill was very much adapted. Accordingly a line was marked out for inclosing the limits of the Observatory, with a wall constructed with buttresses and embrasures, and having Gothic towers at the angles. Thus the money designed for the work was totally exhausted, and the Observatory lay in an unfinished state till the summer of the year 1791. It is now finished at the expence of the city, though on an inferior scale.

Around this hill there is a pleasant walk, which affords one of the finest prospects that can be imagined, varying remarkably almost every step. On



The Excise Office With the Adjacent Buildings in St. Andrews Square.

Excise Office . . . St George's Chapel.

this hill, too, is a burying-ground, which contains a fine monument to the memory of DAVID HUME the historian. At a small distance eastward stands the *New Bridewell*, a beautiful edifice, which will be afterwards more particularly described. And on the highest summit of the Calton-hill, it is intended very soon to erect a pillar to the memory of the illustrious NELSON, from a beautiful plan presented to the Magistrates, by that ingenious artist, Mr Nasmyth, of this city.

GENERAL EXCISE-OFFICE.

On the east side of St Andrew's Square stands the *General Excise-Office*, built by the late Sir Laurence Dundas for his own residence, but sold by his son for the above purpose. It is a very handsome building, with a pediment in front ornamented with the King's arms, and supported by four Corinthian pilasters ; and, in conjunction with the two corner houses, has a fine effect.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL, &c.

In a line with York-Place, on the south-west side, and uniting it to Queen-Street, a beautiful structure was erected in the year 1794, in the Gothic style of architecture, for the accommodation of those of the Church of England communion, resident in the New Town, and named from the titular Saint of England, *St George's Chapel*. It is built after a design of the late celebrated Mr Ro-

St Andrew's Church . . . The Physicians Hall . . . Assembly Rooms.

bert Adam, and is perhaps, one of the most beautiful specimens of Gothic architecture which that eminent architect has left behind him.

Another handsome chapel was lately built for the same purpose, at the west end of Rose-Street, near Charlotte-Square, by the right reverend Bishop SANDFORD, which is crowded with people of the first distinction in the city.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH.

This edifice stands on the north side of George's Street. It is of an oval form; and has a very neat spire of 186 feet in height, with a chime of eight bells; the first and only one of the kind in Scotland. It has also a handsome portico in front.

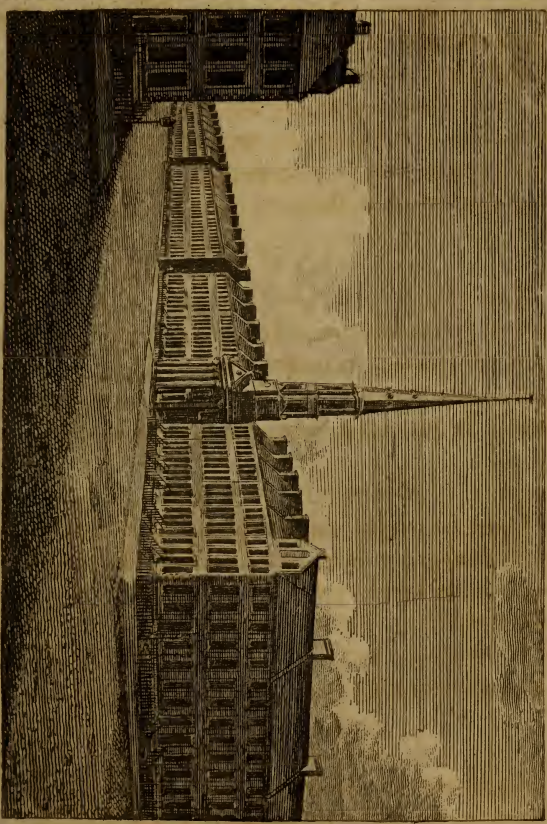
THE PHYSICIANS HALL.

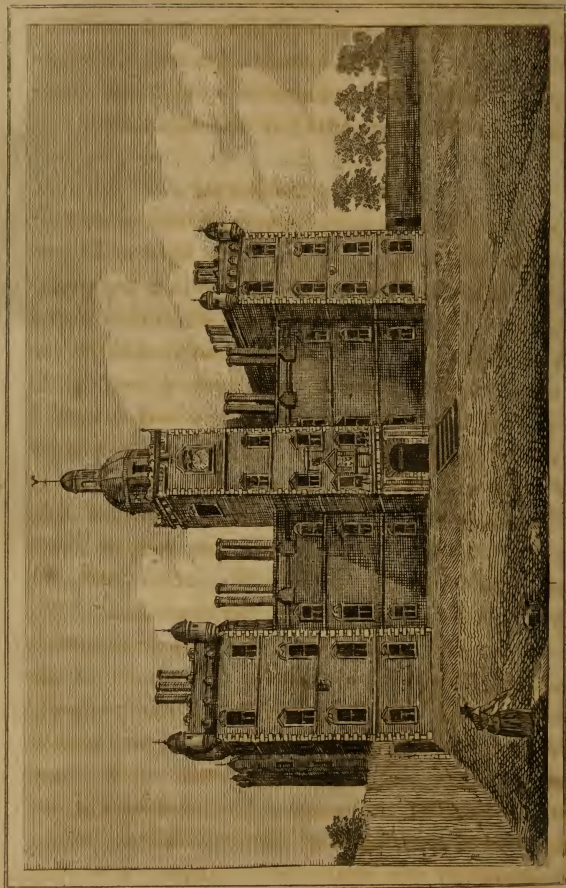
Opposite to St Andrew's church is the *Physicians Hall*, erected in 1775, designed for the meetings of the Faculty, and which has an elegant portico resembling that of the church. It is a beautiful building, and is considered as a chaste and elegant imitation of ancient Grecian architecture.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

Farther to the westward, on the south side, stand the *Assembly Rooms*, which, though a heavy looking building on the outside, are nevertheless extremely elegant and commodious within. The largest room is 100 feet long by 42 broad, and 40 feet

A View of GEORGE'S STREET New Town





FRONT VIEW OF HERIOT'S HOSPITAL.

Heriot's Hospital.

high, being exceeded in its dimensions by none in the island, the large one at Bath excepted. Weekly assemblies are held here for dancing and card-playing, under the direction of a master of ceremonies ; admission-tickets five shillings each.

HERIOT'S HOSPITAL

Owes its foundation to George Heriot, goldsmith to James VI., who, at his death, left the Magistrates of Edinburgh 23,625*l.* 10*s.* “ for the maintenance, relief, and bringing up, of so many “ poor and fatherless boys, freemens’ sons of the “ town of Edinburgh,” as the above sum should be sufficient for. This hospital is finely situated on the west end of the south ridge, almost opposite to the castle, and is the most magnificent of the kind in Edinburgh. It was founded in July 1623, according to a plan (as is reported) of Inigo Jones ; but the work being interrupted by the civil wars, it was not finished till the year 1650. The expence is said to have been upwards of 30,000*l.* ; (money, it is to be observed, then bore 10*l.* per cent. interest) : and the hospital is now possessed of an improveable income of 4000*l.* a-year ; though this cannot be absolutely ascertained, as the rents are paid in grain, and must of course be fluctuating. This edifice is a square of 160 feet without, having a court of 94 feet square in the inside, with piazzas on two of the sides. There is a spire with a clock over the gateway, and each corner of the

Heriot's Hospital.

building is ornamented with turrets ; but, notwithstanding the magnificent appearance of the outside, the inner part is far from being convenient. There is a statue of the founder over the gateway, in the dress of the times, and a very good painting of him in the council-room, with the picture of a late treasurer, Mr Carmichael. There is a fine Gothic chapel 61 feet long and 22 broad, which is now repaired in such a manner, as to make it worthy the attention of strangers. When Cromwell took possession of Edinburgh after the battle of Dunbar, he quartered his sick and wounded soldiers in this hospital. It was applied to the same purpose till the year 1658, when General Monk, at the request of the governors, removed the soldiers ; and on the 11th of April 1659, it was opened for the reception of boys, 30 of whom were admitted into it. The August after they were increased to 40 ; and in 1661, to 52. In 1753 the number was raised to 130, and in 1763 to 140 ; but since that time it has decreased. In this hospital the boys are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and a knowledge of the Latin tongue. With such as follow any kind of trade an apprentice-fee of 30*l.* is given when they leave the hospital ; and those who choose an academical education, have an annuity of 10*l.* a-year bestowed on them for four years. The whole is under the oversight of the treasurer, who has under him a house-governor, house-keeper and schoolmasters.

Watson's Hospital.

WATSON'S HOSPITAL

Has its name from the founder, George Watson, who was at first clerk to Sir William Dick, Provost of Edinburgh in 1676, then accountant of the Bank of Scotland: after that he became receiver of the city's impost on ale, treasurer to the Merchants Maiden Hospital, and to the Society for propagating Christian knowledge. Dying a bachelor in 1723, he left 12,000*l.* for the maintenance and education of the children and grand-children of decayed members of the merchant company of Edinburgh. The scheme, however, was not put in execution till the year 1738, when the sum originally left had accumulated to 20,000*l.* The present building was then erected, in which about 60 boys are maintained and educated. It is much less magnificent than Heriot's Hospital, but the building is far from being despicable. It stands to the southward of the city, at a small distance from Heriot's Hospital, and was erected at the expence of 5000*l.*: its present revenue is about 1700*l.* a year. It is under the management of the master, assistants, and treasurer of the Merchant Company, four old bailies, the old dean-of-guild, and the two ministers of the Old Church. The boys are genteelly clothed, and liberally educated. Such as choose an university education are allowed 10*l.* *per annum* for five years: those who go to trades have 20*l.* allowed them for their apprentice-fee; and, at the

The Merchants' Maiden Hospital. . . Trades ditto.

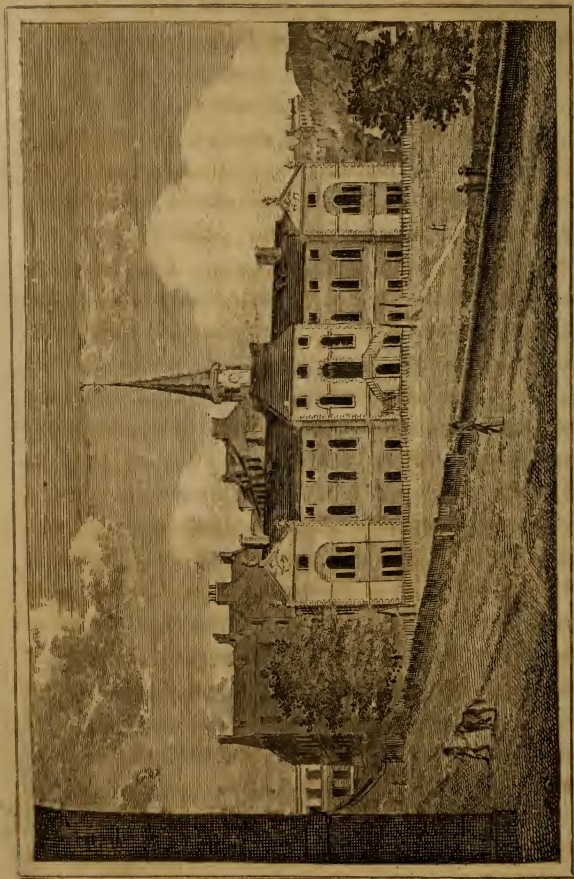
age of 25 years, if they have behaved properly, and not contracted marriage without consent of the governors, they receive a bounty of 50*l*. The boys are under the immediate inspection of the treasurer, school-masters, and house-keeper.

THE MERCHANTS' MAIDEN HOSPITAL

Was established in the year 1695, by voluntary contribution, for the maintenance of young girls, daughters of the merchants burgesses of Edinburgh. The governors were erected into a body corporate, by act of parliament, in 1707. The annual revenue amounts to above 1400*l*. Seventy girls are maintained in it; who, upon leaving the house, receive 3*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. excepting a few who are allowed 8*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. out of the funds of the hospital. The profits arising from work done in the house are also divided among the girls, according to their industry.

THE TRADES MAIDEN HOSPITAL,

Was founded in the year 1704 by the incorporations of Edinburgh, for the maintenance of the daughters of decayed members, on a plan similar to that of the Merchants Hospital. To this as well as the former, one Mrs Mary Erskine, a widow gentlewoman, contributed so liberally, that she was by the governors stiled *joint foundress* of the hospital. Fifty girls are maintained in the house, who pay of entry money 1*l*. 13*s*. 4*d*.; and when they



— A VIEW of the ORPHAN'S HOSPITAL —
and adjacent Buildings

The Orphan Hospital.

leave it, receive a bounty of 5l. 11s. 1½d. The revenues are estimated at 650l. a-year.

THE ORPHAN HOSPITAL,

Was planned in 1732 by Andrew Gairdner merchant, and other inhabitants. It was promoted by the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, by other societies, by voluntary subscriptions, and a collection at the church doors. In 1733, the managers hired a house, took in 30 orphans, maintained them, and taught them the weaving business. In 1735, they were erected into a body-corporate by the town of Edinburgh; and in 1743, they obtained a charter of erection from his late Majesty, appointing most of the great officers of state in Scotland, and the heads of the different societies in Edinburgh, members of this corporation: with powers to them to hold real property to the amount of 1000l. a-year. The revenue is inconsiderable; but the institution is supported by the contributions of charitable persons. In this hospital orphans are received from any part of the kingdom. None are admitted under seven, or continued in it after fourteen years of age. At present (1807) above 150 orphans are maintained in it.

The Orphan Hospital is situated to the east of the North Bridge; and is a handsome building, consisting of a body and two wings, with a neat spire, furnished with a clock and two bells. The late philanthropic Mr Howard admits, that this in-

Gillespie's Hospital.

stitution is one of the most useful charities in Europe, and is a pattern for all institutions of the kind. The funds have been considerably increased, and the building greatly improved, through the attention and spirited exertions of the worthy Mr Thomas Tod, the late treasurer.

GILLESPIE'S HOSPITAL.

MR JAMES GILLESPIE, late merchant in Edinburgh, destined, by his will, the greater part of a considerable fortune, (acquired by a long and extensive trade in the articles of *snuff* and *tobacco*,) to the erection and endowment of an Hospital and School; the former, for the maintenance of *old men* and *women*; the latter for the education of 100 boys.

The title of admission to the Hospital is,—
“ Good behaviour and poverty, with no allowance
“ from any charity : Fifty-five years of age and
“ upwards. Preferred as follows : 1st, Persons who
“ have been Mr Gillespie's hired servants : 2d,
“ Persons of the name of Gillespie : 3d, Persons
“ belonging to Edinburgh and its suburbs : 4th,
“ Persons belonging to Leith, and other parts of
“ the county of Mid-Lothian : Lastly, Persons be-
“ longing to any part of Scotland.”

The title of admission to the school is, “ po-
“ verty ; boys not under six, nor above twelve
“ years of age. No limitations as to residence.”

Mr Gillespie's Trustees purchased *Burntsfield Castle*, or *Wryte's house*, with the garden and parks,



R. Scott sc.

GILLESPIE'S HOSPITAL.

Trinity Hospital.

belonging to it ; and, that being insufficient for the purposes of the institution, they have been under the necessity of pulling down that beautiful Gothic structure, and have erected a handsome and commodious building on its site, adjoining Burntsfield Links on the west, nearly parallel to the Castle, on a gentle eminence, and commanding a delightful view of the country south-west of Edinburgh.

THE TRINITY HOSPITAL.

THIS was originally founded and amply endowed, by King James II's Queen. At the Reformation it was stripped of its revenues ; but the regent afterwards bestowed them on the provost of Edinburgh, who gave them to the citizens for the use of the poor. In 1585, the town-council purchased from Robert Pont, at that time provost of Trinity College, his interest to these subjects ; and the transaction was afterwards ratified by James VI. The hospital was then repaired, and appointed for the reception of poor old burgesses, their widows and daughters, not under 50 years of age. In the year 1700, this hospital maintained 44 persons ; but since this time the number has decreased.—The revenue consists in a real estate of lands and houses, the gross rent of which is 762*l.* a-year ; and 5500*l.* lent out in bonds at 5 *per cent.*

This hospital is situated at the foot of Leith-Wynd, and maintains about 50 of both sexes, who are comfortably lodged, each having a room for

Asylum for the Blind. . . . Magdalen Asylum.

themselves. They are supplied with roast or boiled meat every day for dinner, have money allowed them for clothes, and likewise a small sum of pocket-money. There is a small library for their amusement, and they have a chaplain to say prayers. There are some out-pensioners who have 6l. a-year, but these are discouraged by the governors. The funds are under the management of the town-council.

ASYLUM FOR THE BLIND.

This useful institution was projected by Dr Johnstone of North Leith, in 1795, and is chiefly maintained by voluntary contributions. The indigent blind, who are the objects of the charity, are here taught to work at professions suitable to their abilities. They make all sorts of wicker-work, matts, &c.; and some of them are even employed in weaving, making use in this branch of the fly-shuttle. The produce of their work contributes not a little to the support of the institution.

MAGDALEN ASYLUM.

This institution was first projected in the year 1797, under the title of "The Philanthropic Society of Edinburgh." Its object is to reclaim to habits of virtue and industry, convicts, chiefly of the female sex, who have been committed to Bridewell, and other persons of similar characters. It is chiefly supported by voluntary contributions: A handsome building has lately been erected in the

The Charity Workhouse.

Canongate for the reception of these unfortunate females.

THE CHARITY WORKHOUSE

Was erected in 1743 by voluntary contribution. It is a large plain building, on the S. side of the city. Here the poor are employed, and are allowed two-pence out of every shilling they earn. The expence of this institution is supposed to be not less than 4000*l.* annually ; as about 700 persons of both sexes, including children, are maintained here ; and there are, besides, 300 out-pensioners. The only permanent fund for defraying this expence, is a tax of two per cent. on the valued rents of the city, which may bring in about 600*l.* annually ; and there are other funds which yield about 400*l.* The rest is derived from collections at the church doors, and voluntary contributions ; but as these always fall short of what is requisite, recourse must frequently be had to extraordinary collections. The sum arising from the rents of the city, however, is constantly increasing ; *but the Members of the College of Justice are exempted.*

There are two other charity workhouses in the suburbs, much on the same plan with that now described ; one in the Canongate, and the other in St Cuthbert's or West Kirk parish.

To this account of the charitable establishments in Edinburgh, we shall add that of some others ; which, though not calculated to decorate the city

Charitable Institutions.

by any public building, are perhaps no less deserving of praise than any we have mentioned. The first is that of Captain WILLIAM HORN ; who in 1741 left 3500*l.* in trust to the magistrates, the annual profits to be divided on Christmas day to poor out-day labourers, who must at that season be destitute of employment ; 5*l.* to be given to those who have large families, and one half to those who have smaller.

Another charity is that of ROBERT JOHNSTON, L. L. D. of London, who in 1640 left 3000*l.* to the poor of this city ; 1000*l.* to be employed in setting them to work ; another 1000*l.* to clothe the boys in Heriot's Hospital ; and the third 1000*l.* to bursers at the University.

About the beginning of the last century, JOHN STRACHEN left his estate of *Craigrook*, now upwards of 300*l.* a-year, in trust to the Presbytery of Edinburgh, to be by them disposed of in small sums to poor old people not under 65 years of age, and to orphans not above 12.

There is besides, a society for the support of the *Industrious Poor*, another for the *Indigent Sick*, and there are also many charity schools.—Opposite to the Charity Workhouse, on the east side, is *Bedlam*, appropriated for the reception of persons disordered in mind.

RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS.

It now remains only to speak something of the

Religious Establishments.

religious and civil establishments of this metropolis. The highest of the former is the *General Assembly, of the Church of Scotland*, who meet here annually in the month of May, in an aisle of the church of St Giles fitted up on purpose for them. The throne is filled by a Commissioner from his Majesty; but he neither debates nor votes. He calls them together, and dissolves them at the appointed time in the name of the King; but they call and dissolve themselves in the name of the Lord JESUS CHRIST. This Assembly consists of 350 members, chosen out of the various presbyteries throughout the kingdom; and the debates are often interesting and eloquent. This is the supreme ecclesiastical court in Scotland, to which appeals lie from the inferior ones.

The ecclesiastical court next in dignity to the Assembly is the *Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale*, who meet in the same place in April and November; and next to them is the *Presbytery of Edinburgh*. These meet on the last Wednesday of every month; and are Trustees on the *Funds for Ministers Widows*. They have a hall in Scott's Close, where there is a picture of Dr Webster by Martin, put up at the expence of the Trustees, out of gratitude for the trouble he took in planning and establishing the Fund.

The Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, was established a body-corporate by Queen Anne in the

Religious Establishments.

year 1709, for the purpose of erecting schools to instruct poor children in the principles of Christianity, as well as in reading and writing. The Society have a hall at the Netherbow, where their business is transacted. From time to time they have received large contributions, which have always been very properly applied; and for much the same purpose his Majesty gives 1000*l.* annually to the General Assembly, which is employed by a committee of their number for instructing the poor Highlanders in the principles of Christianity.

THE EARSE CHURCH at Edinburgh was built about 24 years ago by subscription for the same laudable purpose. Great numbers of people resort to the metropolis from the Highlands, who understand no language but their own, and consequently have no opportunity of instruction without it; and a most remarkable proof of the benefit they have received from it is, that though the church is capable of holding 1000 people, yet it is not large enough for those who apply for seats. The minister has 200*l. per annum* arising from the seat rents, and holds communion with the church of Scotland. The establishment was promoted by William Dickson, dyer in Edinburgh.

Besides the religious establishments above mentioned, there are in Edinburgh the following parochial churches, of which the limits of this work

Religious Establishments.

will not allow us to give a particular description.

1. THE OLD AND NEW GRAY FRIARS' CHURCHES, two contiguous buildings ; the one built in 1612, and the other in 1721. The former is remarkable for having been the prison of the Covenanters during the troubles of the reign of Charles II. On the 7th of May 1718, part of the same church was blown up by gun-powder, belonging to the town, which had been lodged in the steeple.

2. LADY YESTER'S CHURCH, founded in 1617, by Dame Margaret Ker, Lady Yester.

3. TRINITY COLLEGE CHURCH, founded in 1462, by Mary of Gueldres, Queen of James II. in honour of the holy Trinity, was called *College-Kirk*.

4. THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT'S, commonly called the WEST KIRK, whose parish is esteemed the richest and most populous in Scotland. This church appears to be of great antiquity, as, in the charter of foundation of the monastery of Holyrood-house, there is mention of donations made to it by the ususper Macbeth. Some years ago, this church becoming ruinous, a new one was erected, which has been lately ornamented with a handsome spire.

Owing to the great increase of the number of inhabitants in the parish of St Cuthbert's, it was found necessary to erect a place of worship for their accommodation. A *Chapel of Ease* was accordingly built by subscription. The landholders and kirk-session of the parish of St Cuthbert's have the

Royal Academy of Exercises.

government of all matters respecting this chapel, and the right of electing the minister.

There is another chapel, founded by Lady Glenorothy in the year 1772, called LADY GLENORCHY'S CHAPEL, whose minister holds communication with the Church of Scotland.

A chapel has been also built for the accommodation of a very numerous congregation, belonging to the Canongate Church.

There are in Edinburgh 44 or 45 places of public worship. Of these the establishment possess 17, (with the Chapels of Ease ;) the Episcopalians 6 ; the Roman Catholics 2 ; the Antiburghers 2 ; the Burghers 3 ; the Baptists 1 ; the Glassites 1 ; the Quakers 1 ; the Methodists 1 ; the Bereans 1 ; and of late a new sect has sprung up under the auspices of a private gentleman of fortune, Mr Haldane, whose places of worship are denominated *Tabernacles*, somewhat on the plan of Mr Whitefield.

PLACES OF PUBLIC EXERCISE*.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF EXERCISES.

The riding-school or Royal Academy of Exercises was built by subscription. The sum raised for this

* The three following articles are extracted from a very ingenious work, entitled "*The Picture of Edinburgh*," published by Messrs Constable and Company.

Royal Company of Archers.

purpose during the first three years was 2733l. 15s. It was opened in the year 1764 ; and in 1766 received a royal charter, with a salary of 200l. a-year to the master. The building, which stands on the east side of Nicolson's Street, is 124 feet long by 42 broad ; and there is also a room where fencing is taught by an able master.

ROYAL COMPANY OF ARCHERS.

The Royal Company of Archers in Edinburgh is the most remarkable of the kind now existing. Before the invention of gun-powder, archery was much cultivated, both in England, and in this country, as a warlike art. The Scottish archers, however, were inferior, in the exercise of this weapon of offence, to the English. James I. during his captivity in England remarked the striking disparity ; and immediately on his return to take possession of the throne of his ancestors, he appears to have exercised extraordinary care in order to improve the Scots in the practice of archery. The annual musters of the archers at this time were called *weapon-shawing* ; and many acts of the Scottish legislature were passed to enforce the practice of this exercise through the country.

The ancient records of the Royal Company of Archers having been destroyed by fire about the beginning of the last century, no authentic records of its institution now remain. It has been said, however, to owe its origin to the commissioners ap-

Royal Company of Archers.

pointed in the reign of James I. of Scotland, for enforcing the practice of archery in the different countries. These commissioners, it is related, having chosen some of the most dexterous archers from among the better sort of people, formed them into a company for defending the king's person as a body-guard. The company still claim this privilege within six miles of the capital.

The practice of archery having been much decayed, several noblemen and gentlemen, in the year 1676, associated themselves into a body for its restoration ; and the Marquis of Athole was elected their captain-general. The association was confirmed by the Scottish privy-council in the year 1677 ; and the commissioners of the Treasury gave the company 20l. to purchase a prize, to be shot for at their annual trials of skill. On the accession of Queen Anne, the celebrated Sir George Mackenzie was the captain-general ; and in the year 1713 that queen erected the company into a corporation, by the title of the “ Royal Company of Archers.” The magistrates of Edinburgh also gave them a silver arrow as a prize to be annually shot for.

The first public parade of the company was in the year 1714, at which time they marched in procession from the Parliament Square of Holyroodhouse, and from thence to Leith, dressed in the elegant uniform of the order. After the rebellion of 1715, the company discontinued their annual exhibitions of skill, and from that period there was

Company of Golfers.

no parade of the archers for 15 years. In the present reign, however, his Majesty renewed the royal prize, and the company now parade occasionally as formerly. At present there are above 1000 members of this company.

The Company of Archers have a neat hall for their meetings at the east end of the public walk called the Meadows.

COMPANY OF GOLFERS.

The Golf is an amusement peculiar to Scotland, and has been practised in this country from the most remote antiquity. By a statute of James II., in 1557, this amusement, together with that of the foot-ball, was prohibited, that it might not interfere with the more martial exercises of the “*wea-pon-shawing*.” The Company of Golfers in Edinburgh was established in the year 1744, at which time the town-council gave them a silver club, to be annually played for by the members of the company. The place where this game is usually played is on the downs of Edinburgh and Leith, here called *Links*. The parties are one, two, or more, on each side. The balls used are extremely hard, and about the size of a tennis-ball; and the club, with which the ball is struck, is formed of ash, slender and elastic, having a crooked head, faced with horn, and loaded with lead to render it heavy. A set of clubs consists of five in number, a *play-club*, for giving the stroke, a *scraper*, a *spoon*,

Company of Golfers.

an *iron-headed club*, and a short club called a *putter*. The second, third, and fourth of these are used for removing the ball from inconvenient situations, and the *putter* where a short stroke only is intended. The balls are struck by these clubs into small holes, about a quarter of a mile distant from one another, and he or they who convey the ball into these holes in succession, with the fewest strokes, is declared the victor. The distance to which an expert player at this game will strike a ball is amazing; and there is an anecdote related of a gentleman, who, upon a wager, struck a ball from the Castle-hill into the highest part of the garrison, a height of above two hundred feet.

Besides these amusements, there was formerly an established *Cock-pit* in Edinburgh; but, to the honour of the times, this barbarous amusement has nearly been given up. *Tennis* was also formerly an amusement, and the court where it was held is still standing near the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The *Foot-ball* has also decayed in Edinburgh, though in the country parts of Scotland this amusement is still kept up. *Curling*, or the propelling of smooth stones upon the ice towards a mark, was also a favourite amusement in the winter season. It still prevails in the country; but in Edinburgh it has given way to a company who meet for skating in winter, and are known by the name of “*The Skating Club.*”

Political Constitution.

There are annual *horse-races* in Edinburgh, which are held at Leith, on the sandy shore, at low water. These races are in general well attended by company.

The *Caledonian Hunt* have sometimes their meetings at Edinburgh; but they do not confine themselves to any particular district.

POLITICAL CONSTITUTION.

WITH regard to the *Political Constitution* of Edinburgh, the town-council have the direction of all public affairs. The *ordinary* council consists only of 25 persons; but the *council ordinary and extraordinary* of 33. The whole is composed of merchants or tradesmen, whose respective powers and interests are so interwoven, that a balance is preserved between the two bodies. The members of the town-council are partly elected by the members of the 14 incorporations, and they partly choose their own successors. The election is made in the following manner: First, a list or *leet* of six persons is made out by each incorporation; from which number the deacon belonging to that incorporation must be chosen. These lists are then laid before the ordinary council of 25, who “shorten the *leets*,” by expunging one half of the names from each; and from the three remaining ones the deacon is to be chosen. When this election is over, the new deacons are presented to the ordinary council, who choose six

Political Constitution.

of them to be members of their body, and the six deacons of the last year then walk off. The council of 25 next proceed to the election of three merchants and two trades counsellors. The members of council, who now amount to 33 in number, then make out *leets*, from which the lord provost, dean of guild, treasurer, and bailies, must be chosen. The candidates for each of these offices are three in number ; and the election is made by the 30 members of council already mentioned, joined to the eight *extraordinary* council-deacons.

The LORD PROVOST of Edinburgh, who is styled *Right Honourable*, is lord lieutenant for the city of Edinburgh : high-sheriff, coroner, and admiral, within the city and liberties, and the town, harbour, and road of Leith. He has also a jurisdiction in matters of life and death. He is preses of the convention of royal boroughs, colonel of the trained bands, commander of the city-guard, and of Edinburgh jail. He is also colonel of the first regiment of Royal Edinburgh Volunteers. In this city he has the precedence of all the great officers of state and of the nobility ; walking on the right hand of the King, or of his Majesty's Commissioner, and has the privilege of having a sword and mace carried before him. Under him are four Magistrates, called BAILIES, whose office is much the same with that of alderman in London. There is also a DEAN of GUILD, who has the charge of public buildings,

Political Constitution.

and without whose warrant no house or building can be erected within the city. He has a council to consult, with a nominal treasurer, who formerly had the keeping of the town's money, which is now given to the chamberlain. These seven are elected annually; who, with seven of the former year, three merchants and two trades counsellors, and 14 deacons or preseses of incorporated trades, making in all 33, form the council of the city, and have the sole management and disposal of the city revenues; by which means they have the disposal of places to the amount of 20,000*l.* annually. Formerly the Provost was also an officer in the Scots parliament. The Magistrates are sheriffs-depute and justices of the peace; and the town-council are also patrons of all the churches in Edinburgh, patrons of the university, and electors of the city's representative in parliament. They have besides a very ample jurisdiction both civil and criminal. They are superiors of the Canongate, Portsburgh, and Leith; and appoint over these certain of their own number, who are called *baron-bailies*; but the person who presides over Leith has the title of *admiral*, because he hath there a jurisdiction over maritime affairs. The baron-bailies appoint one or two of the inhabitants of their respective districts to be their substitutes, and these are called *resident bailies*. They hold courts in absence of the baron-bailies, for petty offences, and discussing civil causes of little moment.

Town Guard.

TOWN GUARD.

No city in the world affords greater security to the inhabitants in their persons and properties than Edinburgh. Robberies are here very rare, and a street-murder hardly known in the memory of man; so that a person may walk the streets in any hour of the night in perfect security. This is, in a great measure, owing to the *Town Guard*. This institution originated from the consternation into which the citizens were thrown after the battle of Flodden. At that time, the town-council commanded the inhabitants to assemble in defence of the city, and every fourth man to be on duty each night. This introduced a kind of personal duty for the defence of the town, called *watching and warding*; by which the trading part of the inhabitants were obliged in person to watch alternately, in order to prevent or suppress occasional disturbances. This, however, becoming in time extremely inconvenient, the town-council, in 1648, appointed a body of 60 men to be raised; the captain of which was to have a monthly pay of 11l. 2s. 3d. two lieutenants of 2l. each, two serjeants of 1l. 5s. and the private men of 15s. each. No regular fund was established for defraying this expence, the consequence of which was, that the old method of watching and warding was resumed: But the people on whom this service devolved were now become so relaxed in their discipline, that the magistrates were threatened with

Town Guard.

having the king's troops quartered in the city, if they did not appoint a sufficient guard. On this, 40 men were raised in 1679, and in 1682 the number was increased to 108. After the Revolution, the town-council complained of the guard as a grievance, and requested parliament that it might be removed. Their request was immediately granted, and the old method of watching and warding was renewed. This, however, was now so intolerable, that the very next year they applied to parliament for leave to raise 126 men for the defence of the city, and to tax the citizens for their payment. This being granted, the corps was raised, which still continues under the name of the *Town Guard*. Lately this establishment consisted of three officers and about 90 men, who mounted guard by turns* : The officers had a lieutenant's pay ; the serjeants, corporals, drummers, and common soldiers, the same with those of the army. Their arms are the same with those of the king's forces ; but when called out to quell mobs, they use Lochaber-axes, a part of the ancient Scottish armour now in use only among themselves.

The Town-Guard were paid chiefly by a tax on the trading people ; these being the only persons formerly subject to watching and warding. This

* At present the establishment consists only of one officer and 30 men, as a guard to the Provost, the remainder being lately disbanded to make way for the new system of Police.

Court of Police.

tax, however, amounts only to 1250*l.*; and as the expence of the Guard amounted to 1400*l.*, the magistrates were obliged to defray the additional charge by other means.

The old system of Police having been found insufficient for the city in its present extended state, an application was lately made to Parliament for a new police bill for the city. This bill was obtained in the session of Parliament, 1805 and was begun to be acted upon, and a police court opened in Edinburgh, on the 15th of July 1805.

Court of Police.—This court is under the superintendence of a person with the title of Judge of Police, and a clerk. Under him are six inspectors, for the different wards into which the city is divided. Every public outrage, every theft, robbery or depredation, every obstruction, nuisance, or breach of cleanliness, and every imposition or overcharge in articles under the cognizance of the police-act, are deemed public offences, and are prosecuted by the inspectors of the wards. The examination of the offender and witnesses are in this court taken *instanter*, and *viva voce*; and the sentence pronounced is immediately executed. The Judge of Police is empowered to punish by fines and compensation for damages, by imprisonment in jail, or by commitment to Bridewell.

MILITIA, OR TRAINED BANDS, &c.

The *Militia* or *Trained Bands* of the city con-

Trained Bands. . . . Number of Inhabitants.

sisted of 16 companies of 100 men each. They were in use to turn out every king's birth-day; but only the officers now remain, who are chosen annually. They consist of 16 captains, and as many lieutenants and ensigns; the Provost, as has already been mentioned, being the colonel. There are also a sufficient number of *Constables* appointed by the magistrates from among the trading part of the people, who form a most respectable and useful body, and have for many years past, in an eminent degree, maintained the peace and security of the inhabitants of Edinburgh.

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS.

The number of inhabitants in the city of Edinburgh is somewhat uncertain, and has been very variously calculated. By a survey made in the year 1775, it appears that the number of families in the city, Canongate, and other suburbs, and the town of Leith, amounted to 13,806. The difficulty, therefore, is to fix the number of persons in a family. Dr Price fixes it at four and one-tenth; Mr Maitland, at five and one half; and Mr Arnot, at six; so that, according to this last gentleman, the whole number of inhabitants was then 82,836; to which he thinks 1400 more may be added for those in garrison, hospitals, &c. An enumeration since made for that valuable work, Sir John Sinclair's *Statistical Account of Scotland*, has given only 84,886. But this enumeration is without

The Markets of Edinburgh.

doubt under the truth ; and there are at present in Edinburgh and Leith above 100,000 souls.

There are in Edinburgh 14 incorporations, capable of choosing their own deacons ; viz. The royal college of surgeons ; the corporations of goldsmiths, skinners, furriers, hammermen, wrights and masons, taylors, bakers, butchers, shoemakers, weavers, waukers, bonnet-makers, and merchant-company. The revenue of the city, arising partly from duties of different kinds, and partly from landed property, is estimated at about 60,000*l. per annum.*

The *Markets* of Edinburgh are plentifully supplied with all sorts of provisions. Fresh butcher meat, as well as fowl and fish, if the weather permit, may be had every day ; and no city can be better supplied with garden stuffs. The Edinburgh strawberries, particularly, are remarkably large and fine. A remarkable instance of the plenty of provisions with which Edinburgh is supplied, was observed in the year 1779, when several large fleets, all of them in want of necessaries, arrived in the Forth, to the amount of about 500 sail, and having on board at least 20,000 men ; yet the increased consumption of provisions, which certainly ensued upon the arrival of so many strangers, made not the least increase in the rate of the markets, insomuch that several victualling ships, sent down by the navy board, returned without opening their hatches. The city-mills are let to the corporation

The various Professions in the City of Edinburgh.

of bakers in Edinburgh; and the bread made in the city is remarkable for its goodness.

Edinburgh is supplied with *Water* brought for some miles in pipes, and lodged in two reservoirs, from whence it is distributed through the city both to public wells and private families. A revenue accrues to the town from the latter, which must undoubtedly increase in proportion as the city extends in magnitude.

There are but few merchants in Edinburgh, most of them residing at the port of Leith; so that the support of the city depends on the consumption of the necessaries as well as the superfluities of life. There are five different sorts of people on whom the shopkeepers, publicans, and different trades, depend: 1. The people of the law, who are a very respectable body in the city. 2. The number of young people, of both sexes, who come to town for their education, many of the parents of whom come along with them. 3. The country gentlemen, gentlemen of the army and navy, and people who have made their fortunes abroad, &c. all of whom come to attend the public diversions, or to spend their time in such a manner as is most agreeable to them. 4. The vast concourse of travellers from all parts. 5. Most of the money drawn for the rents of country gentlemen is circulated among the bankers or other agents.

At Edinburgh there are excellent manufactures of linen and cambrics; there are also manufac-

Bridewell.

tures of paper in the neighbourhood, and printing is carried on very extensively. But for some time the capital branch about Edinburgh has been building : which has gone on, and still continues to do so, with such rapidity, that the city has been increased exceedingly in its extent ; and it is not uncommon to see a house built in a few months, and even inhabited before the roof is quite finished.—

BRIDEWELL.

The want of a Bridewell was long felt in this city : this has been lately supplied—On the 30th of November 1791, the foundation-stone of the building intended for this purpose, was laid with great solemnity, by the Right Honourable George Earl of Morton, Grand Master-Mason of Scotland, attended by the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, in their robes, the Sheriff-depute, and a number of the noblemen and gentlemen of the county, and assisted by all the lodges of Free-Masons in the city and vicinity.

This building is situated on the south part of the Calton-hill, and is built from a plan of the late celebrated Robert Adams. It is a noble Gothic edifice, of a semicircular form, and consists of 5 floors, the upper one of which is used as an hospital and store-rooms. It is admirably adapted for the purposes intended, and has been productive of very beneficial consequences to the city of Edinburgh.

The Prospect from the Castle.

ENVIRONS OF EDINBURGH.

EDINBURGH commands from its streets, from its windows, or from the contiguous eminences, several prospects more grand, picturesque, or beautiful, than the most celebrated of those which almost any other town in Europe has to boast of. And, in its environs, are some stately *palaces*, with sumptuous gardens, and extensive and well laid out pleasure-grounds ; several venerable, romantic, and strikingly picturesque *ruins* ; many handsome *villas* ; and a number of neat *ornamented farm-houses*. The bay opening before it, the mountains sheltering it at a distance, the insulated hills scattered in admirable irregularity more immediately around it, the lengthened ridges and the deepening vales by which these are intersected, with the widening plains which extend on two sides, compose, all together, a series of scenery, the most various and the most interesting that fancy can easily conceive. To make such places striking or pleasing to the eye of man, Art can do little, in comparison with what has been done by the hand of Nature.

THE PROSPECT FROM THE CASTLE

Is, on all hands, grand, various, and interesting. *Eastward*, the eye extends its view over the middle parts of the city, to the town and harbour of Leith ; the expanse of the bay to where the sea seems to

The Prospect from the Castle.

be bounded by the meeting sky; the shores of Fife, on the one side, and those of East-Lothian and Berwickshire, on the other, bending, like two horns, to embrace the fluctuating waters; the fishing towns which fringe either coast; the blue heights of the Bass and North-Berwick-Law; the rising hills, the towns, villages, corn-fields, and woods of Berwick-shire and East-Lothian, as they recede backwards from the shore; the rich extent of the lands of Fife, where they advance towards St Andrews and the Frith of Tay; and, on the foreground of this wide prospect, the waters of the Frith diffusing themselves into the bay; the ships in the roads; the rich parks and villas between Edinburgh and Leith; the insulated heights of Calton-hill, Salisbury-craggs, and Arthur-seat, and the palace and abbey of Holyrood-house, immediately under the eye. Turning *northwards*, the spectator may discern, from the same situation, the New Town close under his eye; the rich fields extending from Queen's street to the edge of the Frith; the majestic course of the waters, and the islets rising amidst them, from Queensferry to Inverkeithing, to Inchkeith, and eastward to the isle of May; the fertile, rich, and populous coasts of Fife; the cultivated extent of this country, particularly the beautiful Lomond hills; Linlithgowshire, and the shires of Clackmannan and Kinross, extending, with a gradual elevation, westward; and onwards, to the west and the north, the Ochil

The Prospect from Queen's Street.

hills and the Grampian mountains, bounding the whole vast area with a grand semicircular sweep. *Westward* is seen the long ridge of the heights of Corstorphine; the rich and cultivated plain by which these are divided from the Pentland-heights; and a wide tract of country, towards the distant mountains, which form the western boundary of Stirlingshire. On the *southern* side, the view is still various and interesting; although quickly narrowed and confined by the intervention of the Pentland hills, and of lower, yet elevated ridges, rising still one beyond another, towards Tweeddale and Selkirkshire.

QUEEN'S STREET.

As the stranger walks along this fine street, between east and west, his eyes will quickly be attracted to the north-west, the northern, and the north-east prospects. The same scenery was already beheld from the castle; but the point of view being now different, and the limits of the horizon contracted; the effect to the eye of taste is wholly changed, and, perhaps, not a little improved. Evening and morning are the most advantageous times in the day for the enjoyment of the prospect; because the surface is so level for a great extent, as to require even more shade than can be obtained without a total privation of bright light, in order that it may give those picturesque effects which render it truly interesting. About sun-rise, and

Bernard's Well.

for some time after it, in the morning, the opening of the Frith is seen to the greatest advantage in Queen's-street. Nothing can be more enchanting than the soft golden colours, which the setting sun is seen, from the same point of view, to shed over the west.

BERNARD'S WELL

Lies about half a mile N. W. from Queen's Street; the walk to which is singularly beautiful and romantic. This spring has long been celebrated for its medicinal virtues; and is still resorted to by many of the lovely daughters of Edina, during the delightful mornings of Spring and Summer. The late Lord Gardenstone having reaped much benefit from this well, he purchased the property of it, and erected a beautiful edifice over it, consisting of a circle of columns, surmounted by a neat dome. In the middle of this temple is a statue of Hygeia, the goddess of health, which is a well proportioned figure, but too large for a near view. Nearly opposite to this temple stands a circular tower, erected by the late Mr Walter Ross, and composed almost entirely of sculpture from ancient ruinous buildings in and about Edinburgh. In this tower stands the unfinished effigy of Oliver Cromwell, which was intended by the magistrates of Edinburgh to have been erected in the Parliament Square to the honour of that usurper. But the Restoration of Charles II. putting a stop to this intention, poor

The Meadows.

Oliver was obliged to give way to the elegant equestrian statue of that monarch, which now decorates the square.

THE MEADOWS.

On the south side of the city is the beautiful walk called *The Meadows*. This place was formerly a lake called the South Loch ; which was drained about the beginning of the last century, by Thomas Hope, to whom it was let on lease. Hope became bound, by the terms of this lease, not only to drain the lake or marsh, but to make a walk round it of 24 feet in width, with a hedge, and a row of trees ; and a walk across, from north to south, bordered with lime trees. This is the origin of the present beautiful walks. The circumference of the Meadows is about one mile and a half. It is to be regretted that, when draining this swamp, it had not been done more completely, as ditches of stagnant water, increased by rains, still remain, and in the heats of summer emit a disagreeable odour, which greatly hurts the pleasure that might otherwise be enjoyed in this charming walk. This will, however soon be remedied, as the magistrates of Edinburgh have already begun an effectual drain to the sea.

To the south west of the Meadows lie the downs called *Burntsfield Links*, where the citizens in summer amuse themselves at the favourite Scottish

Salisbury Craggs.

game of Golf, and where the troops stationed in the city generally perform their exercises.

But, for fine picturesque effect, the *views* from

SALISBURY CRAGGS,

Are perhaps superior to any other about Edinburgh. Ascending, at the south-east end, that sort of semicircular terrace, which has been gradually formed around these heights, by the quarrying away of the rocks for paving and building; we have first under the eye, a smiling prospect of the fields and villas on the south-west, with Pentland-height rising within the view, almost straight west. Walking softly onwards, we perceive the scene to shift slowly from before us; and the whole mass of the buildings of the old town; and beyond it the noble vale which separates the Pentland-heights from those of Corstorphine, come fully into view. The buildings of the town are here, perhaps, too close upon the fore-ground to produce the best possible effect: But, if the sun be now low in the heavens, so that the lights may be strongly contrasted with shades, there is something inexpressibly picturesque and interesting in the sight; and the heights rising on either side of it, produce also a contrast of a peculiar kind, to the heavy and crowded fore ground. It is, perhaps, to its singularity that this prospect owes its very striking effect. Proceeding farther along the front of the hill, we soon perceive the beautiful streets in the New

The Walk around the Calton-Hill.

Town; the towering rock of the Castle; the delightful fields extending from Queen's Street to the Frith; the moving, winding, expanse of the Frith; the territory of Fife beyond it, and a wide range of country to the west; to unfold themselves all together to the eye in one series of scenes of unspeakable beauty. Where the path winds around to the north-east, the harbour of Leith, the towns of Burnt-island, Kinghorn, and Kirkcaldy, the islands of Inch-keith and May, the coast of Fife, and all the north-east side of the Frith, present themselves to the view.

THE WALK AROUND CALTON-HILL

Commands a very interesting prospect of the Frith and its shores; of the New Town and the beautiful country skirting it, on the northern side; of the Castle and the Old Town; of the towering cliffs of Arthur's-seat and Salisbury-craggs; and a wide extent of other fine scenery. The objects seen from it are, indeed, for the most part, the same as those which are viewed from the castle, and from Salisbury-craggs; but the point of view and the order of the scenes being here different, the effect to the eye is little less novel and striking, than if the objects had never been beheld before. It is unlucky that no means can be readily employed to render the Calton-hill somewhat more easily accessible to the stranger and to the citizen. Should the views of the surrounding scenery tire the be-

Arthur's Seat.

holder, he may ascend to the Observatory, and through the telescopes of *Shortt*, raise his contemplations to the stars; or turn his steps to the south-west corner of the hill, and there *meditate among the tombs*; or he may turn from these a short way eastward, and, at the *New Bridewell*, sigh over a monument of the wickedness and misery of human nature, and of the evils which man in society is compelled to inflict upon man.

It will next be proper to climb the noble hill of

ARTHUR'S SEAT.

The steepness of all, except the eastern side of this hill, renders it exceedingly difficult of access. It is a vast irregular pile of columnar rocks, which may possibly have owed their origin to some volcanic processes in the grand elaboratory of nature. After rising to its middle height, it is broken into several different summits that surround a sort of marshy plain into which the middle space subsides. Of these several summits, that which is by far the loftiest, towers up at the western extremity of the hill, to a great elevation above the height of every contiguous eminence. The prospect which it commands, is even more grand and extensive than that seen from the Castle. It comprehends all the same objects; but, on all hands, expands the limits of the horizon; and particularly towards the east and the south-east, affords a much more distinct view of the bay and its coasts; and of the beautiful-

The Town of Leith.

ly cultivated territory of East Lothian. On the eastern declivity of this hill, the eye and imagination are delighted with a very advantageous view of Duddingston house, the adjacent village, and the finely ornamented grounds lying around : This small landscape, which may be easily contemplated, as if it were wholly detached from the circumjacent country ; may be seen from the indicated point of view, with all the curiously interesting effects of a fine landscape-painting.

THE TOWN AND HARBOUR OF LEITH

Are likely to be, within no long period, connected with Edinburgh, by the continuation of the buildings along the sides of the *foot-walk* and the highway, which lead from the *capital* to its *sea-port town*. The distance from the High Street of Edinburgh to the farthest extremity of the Pier of Leith, does not exceed two miles. An excellent foot-way, carefully barred against horses and carriages, conducts us from Edinburgh to Leith by a very agreeable walk.

The town of Leith is situated at the very angle where the Frith suddenly expands itself into a bay. Its buildings appear to have been originally extended eastward from the small river of Leith *, along

* In the charter of erection of the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, founded by David I. in 1128, it is mentioned by the name of *Inver-leith*. Robert I. in the year 1329, granted to the magistrates of

The Town of Leith.

the shore ; but, at a due distance above the tide-mark. It had then no other harbour than the mouth of the river ;—all its shipping consisted of some few fish-boats :—strangers began to import their commodities ;—a rude mole was formed ;—the inhabitants of the town multiplied, and its buildings were extended ;—a wall, and some other fortifications were constructed for its security. Trade, increasing with the increased prosperity and opulence of the whole kingdom, under the Jameses, demanded an improvement of the harbour, and an addition to the houses and streets of the town. Intercourse with France, in the reign of Mary, and with England, after the accession of James VI. to the English throne, greatly augmented the traffic and prosperity of Leith. Between the end of the sixteenth and the middle of the eighteenth century, it grew up, in that fashion which has its origin in the necessity of crowding habitations together within walls, and in the utter neglect of almost every accommodation, except merely security and shel-

Edinburgh the harbour of Leith, and its mills ; and in 1398 they acquired all the other rights and privileges of it by purchase from Logan of Restalrig. In the year 1485, the magistrates of Edinburgh, to prevent the inhabitants of Leith from rivalling them in trade, passed an act, ordaining, that no merchant of Edinburgh should presume to take an inhabitant of Leith into partnership, under the penalty of forty shillings Scots, and to be deprived of the freedom of the city for one year ; and that none of the revenues of the city of Edinburgh should be farmed to any inhabitant of Leith.

The Town of Leith.

ter ; into a number of irregular and narrow streets, the houses of which consisted of a number of small stones with thick walls, and dark narrow windows. All these events that have since promoted the opulence and extension of Edinburgh ; the commercial intercourse of Scotland with England, or with Spain, France, Flanders, the north of Germany, and the countries on the Baltic ; or the internal improvement of the middle and eastern districts of Scotland ;—have also contributed to increase the trade and the wealth of Leith. The trade with America and the West Indies, indeed, centering rather in Glasgow, and in the sea-port towns, on the western coast, did not enrich Leith or Edinburgh in the same proportion in which it enriched the middle and the western parts of the kingdom. But since the period of the American war, a large share of the commercial capital of the nation has been transferred towards the eastern side of the kingdom : and the trade of Leith in particular has been greatly extended. The merchants of Leith take a profitable share in the Greenland whale-fishery ; they trade to a large annual amount with Russia ; they have, likewise, a considerable commercial intercourse with Denmark and Sweden ; with Hamburgh, Ostend, and the sea-port towns in Holland ; they trade also to the coasts of the Mediterranean ; and they have lately begun to take some part in the direct trade to the West Indies and to America. But their chief trade is with London and other

The Town of Leith.

towns on the eastern coast of England, and with the inland towns on the Frith of Forth ; as also with Glasgow and the western districts, by means of the navigable canal forming a communication between the Forth and the Clyde.

The old harbour of Leith being found insufficient for the prodigious increase of trade and shipping in this port, the foundation of a new stone rampart or pier was laid in 1801, a little to the westward of the former, which is to be accommodated with large wet and dry docks, and an extensive range of warehouses. This new erection is in considerable forwardness ; and, when completed, will render the port of Leith more commodious than any in the kingdom. A light house with reflecting lamps is erected at the mouth of the harbour, and of late another, of a similar description, has been erected on the small island of Inchkeith, in the middle of the Frith of Forth, about three miles from Leith.

The town of Leith, which has in this manner arisen and increased to its present magnitude, spreads itself out for a considerable extent, from its north-west to its south-east extremity, and from its eastern limits to the sea-shore, to where it advances towards Edinburgh. At the sea-shore, the houses extend, with some irregularity of disposition, around the harbour. The street named the *Kirk-gate*, by which a person approaching from Edinburgh first enters Leith, seems to have been, next

The Town of Leith.

after the half-street lying round the harbour, the principal part of the town, until within these last twenty years. It has, within this period, been enlarged by the addition of several new streets on its south-east quarter; but still more, by a range of villas with gardens, which are scattered on this side of it in a charming irregularity, that renders it difficult to distinguish whether they are to be reckoned to belong properly to the town or to the country. In 1806 an elegant *Grammar School*, was erected on the S. W. part of the Links: in the same year a handsome edifice was completed for the accommodation of the *Leith Banking Company*,—and a new Episcopal Chapel has been also erected, a small way west of the Bank, which forms no small ornament to the town of Leith. The *Quay*; the *Drawbridge*, affording ready access to the northern side of the quay; the *ships* in the harbour, and in the adjacent road; the open field named the *Links*, which is frequented by players at the golf; the *sands*, which are the scene of the races; some *roperies* and other manufactories; the *old* part of the *town*, for the strength and gloominess of its buildings, and for the narrowness and dirtiness of its streets, and the *new streets* and *houses*, for their lightness, commodiousness, and elegance,—are the principal objects in Leith, that deserve to be particularly pointed out to the stranger's notice. It is divided into two parishes, under the names of *North* and *South Leith*. It is a

Musselburgh . . . Inveresk.

dependent burgh, subject to the government of the magistrates of Edinburgh.

MUSSELBURGH

Is a fishing and commercial town, lying upon the coast of the bay, at the distance of about seven miles, between east and south-east from Edinburgh. In the village of *Fisher-row*, which may be considered as belonging to Musselburgh, dwell many families of those fishermen who supply the fish-markets of Edinburgh, and the adjacent towns. There are in Musselburgh several respectable merchants engaged in the trade of the Baltic. The whole town may contain about four or five thousand inhabitants. Several gentlemen of moderate, yet easy fortune, choose to fix their residence here, for the sake of the education of their children, of sea-bathing in the proper seasons, of the vicinity of the metropolis, of the abundance of provisions, and of the agreeableness of the situation of the town and its environs.

THE VILLAGE OF INVERESK,

Situate on a rising ground, immediately north-west from Musselburgh, consists of good houses, and is inhabited chiefly by genteel families. It has been called the Montpelier of Scotland. Its situation is, in truth, remarkably salubrious and pleasant.

DALKEITH

Is a burgh of barony, charmingly situate be-

Dalkeith.

tween the two rivers, the *North* and *South* Esk, six miles south from Edinburgh, three miles west from Inveresk. It consists of one main street, extending between east and west, and of several cross streets or lanes chiefly at the west end. It is a much frequented market for grain and cattle; the farmers from the East and the South Country here meeting the butchers, victuallers, and other dealers belonging to Edinburgh and its neighbourhood. The two Esks are here so near to their meeting, that the town entirely fills the breadth of the intermediate space between them; and it may be easily conceived that the stream and its banks must produce, on each side, effects uncommonly interesting and picturesque. The banks of the *North* Esk, especially, are richly wooded. Convenient bridges cover, at proper distances, both the streams. A number of new buildings have already risen on the northern bank of the *North* Esk. All the environs are pleasing, cultivated, and ornamented. Nor is it a small advantage to this town, in point of addition to the beauties of its neighbourhood, that the ducal palace of *Dalkeith-house*, and its noble park, are immediately adjoining to it.

Every stranger who visits Edinburgh and its environs, with views of *Taste*, ought to examine the banks of the *two Esks*, from where they pour their conjoined waters into the bay at *Musselburgh*, to their very sources; the scenery of their banks is every where interesting, often awful and romantic;

Pennycuik . . . Corstorphine . . . Newhaven.

several seats of manufacture, and not a few handsome villas, are scattered near their streams for their whole length. The face of the intermediate country is beautifully variegated with hills and vales. Here plains stretch out; there the ground swells into a ridge; here again it rises.

THE VILLAGE OF PENNYCUIK,

Situated on the North-Esk, at about ten miles west from Edinburgh, is supported chiefly by manufactures of cotton-yarn and of paper; rises in a very picturesque manner up the side of an eminence, and spreads beyond its height for some length over a lower lying tract of ground. *Pennycuik-House*, the seat of Sir John Clerk, Baronet, is at a small distance westward.

THE VILLAGE OF CORSTORPHINE,

About four miles westward from Edinburgh, on the road towards Linlithgow, owes its origin to the existence of a provostry here in popish times; but retains nothing remarkable about it, except some remains of its old religious buildings.

Corstorphine hill commands some of the most delightful views in Britain, and is highly deserving of a visit from every stranger of taste.

Westward from Leith, about half a mile along the shore, is

NEWHAVEN,

A thriving fishing-village, from which the fish-

Cramond . . . Queensferry.

market of Edinburgh receives a great share of its ordinary supplies. In summer and autumn, *New-haven* and its neighbourhood are much frequented by the citizens of Edinburgh, who repair hither for the sake of sea-bathing, and for rural exercise and air.

A mile and a half farther on is the village of

CRAMOND,

Situate at the point where the river *Almond* falls into the Frith of Forth. Its aspect is picturesque. It has some small trade. It has a good school ; and gives its name to the parish in which it stands.

QUEENSFERRY

Is an ancient burgh on the southern side of the Frith, about eight miles distant from Edinburgh ; and is said to have received its name, because Queen Margaret, the wife of Malcolm Canmore, was accustomed to cross the Frith by this passage, whenever she travelled between the castle of Edinburgh and Dunfermline. This has been probably, ever since that period, the *station* of a regular ferry for conveying passengers between the northern and southern shores of the Frith. Opposite to it, on the northern side, stands the village of NORTH FERRY, which likewise owes its origin and support to the establishment of the Ferry in this situation. On the height above rises the burgh of INVER-KEITHING, famous as the scene of a defeat here

Linlithgow.

suffered by the Scottish army from the forces of Cromwell. Below Inverkeithing, on the same northern side of the Frith, is a fine natural basen, forming such a harbour as strongly invites the burgesses of Inverkeithing to engage in a sea-faring traffic. Both Queensferry and Inverkeithing possess some trade, and exercise some share of manufacturing industry. Both are thriving in consequence of their advantageous situation on the Frith, and of the flourishing cultivation of the country round.

LINLITHGOW,

The capital of the county to which it gives its name, is situate at the distance of about 16 miles westward from Edinburgh, and 12 miles southward from the Frith. It has long been distinguished for the palace of the Kings of Scotland, which still stands here,—for its lake remarkable for beauty, and for its exquisite fishes. No traveller passes through the country without visiting it. The English masters of Scotland in the reign of Edward I., built here a *castle*, or, as they termed it, a *peel*. This castle was afterwards taken from them, for Robert Bruce, by William Bunnock, a neighbouring peasant. Bunnock sold a quantity of hay to the English garrison then in the castle, which he was to deliver to the purchasers within the castle-gates. Within his waggon, which was apparently filled with hay only, he concealed eight armed men. He himself, with his servant, conducted the horses

The Iron Works of Carron. . . . Borrowstounness.

with their carriage. The gates were opened for their admission ; but as soon as the waggon was dragged between, so as to block them up from being shut, the men in armour, in concert with Bunnock, sprang suddenly up ; the English were overpowered and slain or disarmed, and the castle was thus won and delivered up to Bruce.

The famous *Iron Works of Carron*, stand northwest from Linlithgow, toward Stirling. The neighbourhood of Carron affords abundance of rich iron-ores. Unwrought iron is likewise imported from the countries on the Baltic. Military stores and domestic utensils of all sorts, for which iron is the proper raw material, are here manufactured in great abundance, for exportation and for home consumption, greatly to the profit of the manufacturing company by which these works are conducted, and to the accommodation and enriching of the country in general.

These works are perhaps the most extensive of the kind in the world. There are constantly employed here above 1600 workmen ; and the capital of the company is more than 200,000*l.* Sterling.

BORROWSTOUNNESS

Is less distant than Carron from Linlithgow, and may be considered as forming a sea-port to Linlithgow. It is a thriving trading town. Coals are an article of export from it. Its trade has been

Stirling. . . . Coast of Fife.

increased by the vicinity of the iron-works of Carron, and by the navigable canal establishing a junction between the Forth and the Clyde. *Dunfermline* and *Alloa* are considerable towns, situate at different distances on the opposite side of the Frith.

STIRLING

Is an ancient and considerable burgh, forty miles distant from Edinburgh, situate on the Forth, above the access of the tides, famous in the Scottish history for its castle, for its bridge, and for the great events of which it has been the scene. Its main street rises up the declivity of a hill, on the summit of which stands the castle. It may contain six or seven thousand inhabitants. It has manufactures of linens, of tartan stuffs, of whiskey, &c. The castle was founded by the Anglo-Saxons in the eight century, was rebuilt in the Norman fashion about the period of the reign of Malcolm Canmore, was frequently the place of the residence of the Jameses, and, after all the vicissitudes which it has experienced, is still a place of considerable strength. The prospect from its battlements is, beyond the power of description, interesting and grand. About three miles south-west from Stirling, is the scene of the famous battle of *Bannockburn*. At some distance farther to the south-west, is the populous and thriving town of *Falkirk*.

The *Coast of Fife*, so easily accessible at Stirling

Coast of Fife.

by the bridge, at Leith and Queensferry by the respective ferry-boats, well deserves to be visited by travellers. The coal and lime trade support a copious population upon its upper parts. Along its lower coasts, that industry is earnestly cultivated, to which a fertile soil, the opportunity of navigation, and the vicinity of a great city, naturally give rise. *Bruntisland, Kinghorn, Kirkaldy, Dysart, Wemyss, Largo*, and a number of other small towns, extend thick along the shore, to where St Andrew's is seated at the southern extremity of the Frith of Tay. Fishing, a coasting trade in coals and lime, &c. the manufacture of checks and canvas, with some other modes of industry, afford support to the inhabitants of these places. Several of them were once more thriving than they are at present. They were kindly fostered by the favour of King James IV. who conferred upon most of them the privileges of royal burghs. The ancient fame and opulence of the university of St Andrew's, the eminent scholars who have taught or studied in it, and its present usefulness as an excellent seminary for liberal instruction, are universally known. The *interior* country is fertile, populous, and, for the most part, well cultivated. *Cupar*, reputed the county-town, is of considerable extent and population. *Auchtermuchty, Newburgh, and Strathmiglo*, are supported chiefly by a manufacture of *green linens*. At *Falkland* are the ruinous remains of what was once a stately royal palace. The *Lomond hills*, anciently

The House of Grange.

covered with wood, rise above Falkland with a beautiful circular elevation. Abundance of wheat, barley, and oats, is produced on the cultivated lands of Fife. It has several fine streams which hold their course through it into the bay. Its surface is so adorned and diversified, as to render its aspect sufficiently interesting and agreeable. It possesses elegant, spacious edifices, the seats of noblemen and gentlemen, its principal landholders.

Beside this interesting character of the general scenery of the country lying on all sides around Edinburgh,—besides whatever is worthy of notice in the towns and villages which are thus scattered over these districts ; there are a number of princely seats, which no curious stranger would not choose to leave Edinburgh without visiting.

PALACES, CASTLES, VILLAS, &c.**THE HOUSE OF GRANGE.**

About half a mile south from the Meadows, in a most delightful situation—stands the House of Grange, a turreted mansion, formerly the seat of the well-known military commander in the reign of Queen Mary, William Kirkaldy. In this house too the celebrated historian Dr Robertson spent the last months of his life. A little to the southward of this house stood the ancient Chapel of St Roque, with its cemetery. The ruins of this building were pulled down in 1803 ; but a print of it is preserved in Grose's *Antiquities of Scotland*, and

Hermitage of Braid. . . . Craigmillar Castle.

Arnot's History of Edinburgh. North-east from this, at a place called the Sciennes, are the small remains of a monastery of nuns called " Sancta Catharina de Siensis," of the order of St Dominic, named from a convent and city of those names in Italy. The lands belonging to this monastery were at the Reformation acquired by the magistrates of Edinburgh.

HERMITAGE OF BRAID.

South from the Borough-moor, about two miles distant from Edinburgh, is the Hermitage of Braid, the sweetly retired residence of Mr Gordon. It is buried in a narrow vale, between two ranges of low and irregular hills, and is surrounded with wood. The small rivalet called Braid-burn " bab-bles by" the house, and meanders through the middle of the vale in which it stands. A stone wall incloses the house, the garden, and the trees and underwood by which they are surrounded. The high grounds which rise on each side of this beautiful seat are ornamented with plantations of wood, or covered with furze; though in some places the appearance of the naked rocks add to the wildness of the scenery. The walk along the *burn* of Braid is peculiarly romantic, and is worthy of perambulation.

CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE

Stands about three miles south from Edinburgh. It is of a square form, and consists of a variety of apartments. The great hall is splen-

Craigmillar Castle.

did, and well lighted, considering the mode of ancient times. On the east end of the hall are blazoned several coats of arms of families with whom the Prestons, who were long proprietors of Craigmillar, were nearly connected. On the south side of this hall is what is called the drawing-room. The staircase which leads to the great hall is large and splendid. The roof of the building is still covered with square flags, with a gentle tapering towards the top. The battlements and parapets which surround it are pretty entire. The prospect from the top cannot for variety and beauty be possibly exceeded. A barmkyn, or thick rampart wall, thirty feet high, with parapets and turrets, encompass the building. The west part of the castle, which is of more modern erection than the other parts, is now unroofed and ruinous. It was built in 1661 by Sir John Gilmour, Lord President of the court of Session, and for some time was the mansion-house of his family. At what time Craigmillar Castle was built, is unknown. It occurs, however, in record as a fortalice, in a charter in the reign of Alexander II., in 1212, by William, son of Henry de Craigmillar, to the monastery of Dunfermline. An inscription on the gate of the outer rampart, bears the date 1427. In the year 1477, John Earl of Mar, a younger brother of James III., was confined in this castle. It was also the residence of James V. for some time during his minority. In 1543 this castle was burnt and plundered.

Duddingston House.

ed by the English. Craigmillar was the frequent residence of Mary Queen of Scots, after her return from France in 1561. Her French retinue were lodged at a small distance, at the village which, from that circumstance, still retains the name of Little France. An orchard of two acres is on the south side of the castle; but there are now only a few old fruit-trees in it. In the immediate neighbourhood of the Castle, are some excellent freestone quarries.

DUDDINGSTON HOUSE,

A seat belonging to the Marquis of Abercorn, and lately possessed by the Earl of Moira, commander in chief of the forces in Scotland, is situated about a mile distant from Edinburgh, on the south-east, near the village of Duddingston. The situation of the house is low; but the building is remarkably elegant, and the surrounding grounds are finely laid out. An extensive lawn stretches out in front, encircled with rising wood, and diversified with clumps irregularly scattered over it. An artificial stream derived from Duddingston *loch*, winds through this lawn, and loses itself in an artificial lake. The stream is ornamented with a Chinese bridge. The view from Duddingston House, though the situation is not elevated, is extensive; and the scenery around it receives an addition of grandeur from the near neighbourhood of Arthur-Seat, which “rears its green head to the sky,” at a little distance.

Palace and Park of Dalkeith.

THE PALACE AND PARK OF DALKEITH,

Belonging to His Grace the Duke of Buccleugh, and lying about 6 miles south-east of Edinburgh, are eagerly seen and admired by all persons of taste. The park-wall meets the eastern end of the town of Dalkeith. The palace stands at a very small distance north-east from the gate opening into the town, and close upon the southern bank of the North Esk. The park extends, for some miles in length, towards Musselburgh and Inveresk. Its breadth, between north and south, comprehends some part of the separate courses, with the junction of the two rivers, the North and the South Esk. Its surface is diversified as to level and elevation—tall forest trees, underwoods, swelling knolls, and open lawns, are suitably intermingled within it. Magnificent stables and kitchen gardens lie at a due distance from the palace. Deer, sheep, and black cattle, feeding within this park, serve to enliven and adorn its scenery. The principal apartments of the palace are spacious, magnificent, and sumptuously furnished. The paintings must be, in a particular manner, highly interesting to every visitor of taste. One set of rooms still exhibits furniture which was presented by King Charles II. to the Duke and Duchess of Monmouth and Buccleugh, the son and daughter-in-law of that monarch, and ancestors of the present Duke of Buc-

Newbattle Abbey.

cleugh. In the hall are some curious specimens of interesting objects of natural history.

NEWBATTLE ABBEY,

A seat belonging to the Marquis of Lothian, stands on the northern bank of the South Esk, about seven miles south from Edinburgh, and one mile south-west from Dalkeith. It is situated on the spot where formerly stood the ancient Abbey of Newbattle, founded here for Cistercian monks by David I. Part of the ancient building may be still traced, and what is more, part of the ancient library is still here preserved, particularly a manuscript copy of Froissart's Chronicles, beautifully illuminated. The house contains many fine paintings, and before it, on the bank of the river North Esk, opens a verdant lawn, with some straggling trees of a very great size interspersed. Close by the wall of the park stands the church of Newbattle, with a small village which has risen around it. The town of Dalkeith is within sight; and, by ascending an eminence on either side, a prospect may be obtained of the city of Edinburgh, and its rich and populous environs. On the highest part of the hill above Newbattle, about 680 feet above the level of the sea, are the remains of a Roman camp, of a quadrangular figure, covering nearly three acres of ground. It is now planted with firs. In this neighbourhood have

Melville Castle . . . Hawthornden . . . Roslin.

been found Roman armour, and urns containing ashes and bones.

MELVILLE CASTLE,

The newly built seat of the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, stands about a mile and a half between west and north-west above the town of Dalkeith, upon the northern bank of the North Esk, and near to the village of Lasswade. Its situation is truly romantic and delightful, and the edifice itself is a noble Gothic structure, well worthy the attention of a stranger.

At the distance of some miles farther, towards the sources of the same river, is

HAWTHORNDEN,

The romantic seat of the celebrated William Drummond, the poet, historian, and statesman, whose works are one of the most honourable monuments of Scottish genius, such as it was in the beginning and middle of the sixteenth century.

Hawthornden is but a small distance from the celebrated ruinous castle and chapel of

ROSLIN.

The ruins of this castle (situated about 7 miles south-west of Edinburgh) stands on a romantic nook, around which, on three sides, the North Esk beautifully winds its stream. On the north side there is access to these ruins across a bridge, be-

Roslin.

neath which no part of the stream now runs, although it plainly appears, that, anciently, a branch of it was artificially conducted this way, so as completely to insulate the castle. Invested around on all hands by rising grounds, this castle seems to occupy, as it were, the arena of an amphitheatre. The ruinous walls of the castle are in part standing, but lie partly scattered in vast fragments, which bespeak it to have been of amazing strength. Its area appears to have been of a large extent. The whole space inclosed, a part of which lies without the castle walls, and is cultivated as a kitchen-garden, or planted with fruit and forest trees, may comprehend two or three acres. After the castle lay in ruins, a modest dwelling-house was built within its precincts, at the southern side, in the beginning of the last century; and this house still stands, and is habitable. The castle itself appears to have been built about the end of the fourteenth century. On a rising ground, about a furlong north, or nearly north-east, from the castle, stands the *Chapel* *; which is one of the most beautiful

* The chapel was founded in 1446 by St Clair, Prince of Orkney and Duke of Oldenburgh, for a provost, 6 prebendaries, and 2 singing boys. The outside is ornamented with a multitude of pinnacles, and a variety of ludicrous sculpture. The inside is 69 feet long; the breadth 34; supported by 2 rows of clustered pillars, about 8 feet high, with an aisle on each side; the arches are Saxo-Gothic, and are extended across the aisles; but the centre of the church is

Pennycuick-House.

and entire remains of the richest and most ornamented style of Gothic architecture. These precious remains are universally admired ; and are so frequently visited by the citizens of Edinburgh, and the inhabitants of the circumjacent country, that a good inn is supported here for the entertainment of those visitants. The banks afford to careful culture, abundance of the finest flavoured strawberries ; and to feast upon strawberries in their season, is not less than to visit the ruins, an object with those parties of pleasure which visit Roslin.

PENNYCUICK-HOUSE,

The seat of Sir John Clerk, Baronet, is situate about three miles farther westward, still upon the banks of the North Esk. It is a handsome modern house, the principal rooms of which are spacious, elegant, and sumptuously furnished. Of one room,

one continued arch, elegantly divided into compartments, and finely sculptured. The capitals of the pillars are enriched with foliage, and a variety of figures ; and, amidst a heavenly concert, appears a cherubim blowing the Highland bagpipes ! *Roslin-castle* (well known by the beautiful song and pleasing melody which bears its name,) is seated on a peninsulated rock, on a deep glen, and accessible only by a bridge of great height. It appears to have been the favourite seat of the great family of Sinclair. Near this place, the English army under John de Le Grave, the English regent in Scotland, in 1302, received three defeats in one day, from the Scottish army under the chiefs Cumyn and Frazer. Roslin has been lately created a British earldom, in the family of Wedderburn, in person of Lord Loughborough.

Hopetoun House, or Palace.

distinguished by the name of *Ossian's Hall*, the roof is nobly painted with historic pieces from the poems ascribed to Ossian. The kitchen-gardens are extensive and skilfully cultivated. The ornamented grounds lying around, are particularly worthy of perambulation and careful survey. This natural disposition is sufficiently picturesque; and such ornaments have been superinduced upon them as are well adapted to improve this general effect.

HOPETOUN-HOUSE, OR PALACE,

The seat of the Right Honourable the Earl of Hopetoun, is situate upon the southern bank of the Forth, about ten miles westward from Edinburgh; Around it is an extensive tract of noble woods and highly ornamented pleasure-grounds. Within these, and on the edge of the Frith, are some points of view, looking north, east, and west, which afford prospects incomparably grand and beautiful. The whole *sweep* of the Frith, from Stirling to Dunbar, may be here comprehended almost at one view. The edifice itself fronts the east, and is truly a princely structure, incomparably more magnificent than any in the county of Edinburgh, or perhaps in Scotland. Indeed, if we take into consideration the unparalleled prospects which this palace commands, elevated upon a noble terrace, commanding a view of the Frith of Forth, even to its junction with the German ocean, we may hazard

Borthwick Castle.

the assertion, that it is hardly excelled by any in Britain. The apartments of Hopetoun-house, though highly ornamented, and containing some admirable paintings, do not perhaps correspond with the splendour of the edifice. The whole *ride* from Edinburgh to Hopetoun-house is exceedingly pleasing, by the fine prospects which it affords. The generous courtesy of the noble proprietor grants ready access to strangers, to wander through these enchanting grounds, and no place can be more interesting to the eye of taste.

BORTHWICK CASTLE

Is one of the most spacious and perfect remains of the mixed military and civil architecture of the fourteenth century.

APPENDIX:

CONTAINING

A COMPENDIOUS ACCOUNT

OF THE

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS

IN THE

City of Edinburgh.

APPENDIX.

CHAP. I.

General Remarks on the late War and on its glorious termination.*
 Its effects on the prosperity of Edinburgh.---Increasing opulence
 of that city.---Its literary productions, &c.

BRITAIN, at the peace of Paris in 1814, after a war of above twenty years duration, had attained the loftiest station among the nations of the world. Europe hailed her as the saviour of her liberties; and her greatest monarchs, and most celebrated warriors, came to offer her the spontaneous homage of gratitude and admiration. This glorious result of a conflict without a parallel in the annals of the world, was justly attributed to the vigour of an administration which had never despaired of the fortunes of their country, or the emancipation of Europe, but steadily persevered in that line of politics traced out by the immortal son of Chatham. This enlightened and virtuous statesman, “the pilot who weathered the storm,” was indeed no more! but he had dropped his inspiring mantle on the heads of his colleagues,—and a Percival, a Liverpool, a Castlereagh, consum-

* See page 41.

The happy termination of the war in 1814.

mated the great work which he had commenced. During the course of this protracted warfare, our most illustrious naval and military heroes had disappeared from their “fields of fame;”—the greatest naval commander that ever adorned the annals of his country had fallen in the arms of victory,—but *his work was done!* Every enemy had disappeared from the ocean, and the united navies of hostile Europe acknowledged the superiority of the British flag. Still, however, did the tyrant of continental Europe proceed in his resistless course; kingdom after kingdom reluctantly submitted to his hateful yoke—till at last every nation on the continent had bent the suppliant knee to an upstart and worthless adventurer; and the commerce, and consequently the power, of Britain, was threatened with annihilation. At this eventful crisis an hero appeared, like the great Marlborough, destined to arrest the progress of despotism, and to reanimate the latent energies of Europe. After a series of the most brilliant victories, the illustrious WELLINGTON conducted the British lion rampant over the ensanguined fields of Spain, to the loftiest summits of the Pyrenees, and planted the British standard on the proud towers of the principal cities of the *sacred territory*.—All Europe, now roused, indignantly burst the intolerable chains of Gallic bondage, rolled back the tide of conquest on

Re-appearance of Buonaparte.

the guilty nation,—and drove the unprincipled oppressor of humanity into ignominious exile.

The *second* usurpation of sovereign power by BUONAPARTE, and the unparalleled treason of many of the marshals, and nearly all the regular army of France, filled up the measure of their crimes,—drew down upon their own guilty heads a heavier vengeance, at the same time that it justified the conquerors in inflicting upon the *great nation* a punishment (not indeed adequate to its deserts) which deprived it of the power of injuring its peaceful neighbours, and made it deeply feel its merited degradation. The ever-memorable battle of Waterloo put the seal to the repose of Europe, consummated the glory and military ascendancy of the British arms, and elevated the character of the great WELLINGTON, and of his illustrious colleague, Prince BLUCHER, to the first rank amongst the Captains that have adorned the annals of history.

A thousand times, during this long and dreadful contest, did a powerful party in the British senate predict the total ruin of British finances, and the complete discomfiture of the British armies;—yet these armies still marched on from triumph to triumph, and the commerce of Britain continued progressively to improve; and even the most remote cities of the kingdom increased in population, elegance, and opulence. We are far from denying, what indeed cannot

Edinburgh supports the Ministry during the war.

be concealed, that during this period much individual distress has been felt, partly arising from the pressure of taxation, but principally from a ruinous spirit of *speculation*, in commerce in the purchase of landed property, and in agricultural operations, which has for some years past pervaded every part of the British empire to an alarming height, and has at last produced the most fatal consequences in several districts of North Britain.

The municipality, and the most respectable part of the community of EDINBURGH (with the exception of some misled individuals) from the commencement of the French Revolution have steadily supported the measures of the British government,—because, in doing so, they felt convinced that they promoted the best interest of their own country, and of the whole European family*. They have cheerfully supported the

* A certain class of politicians, animated, we must believe, with the most patriotic motives, but arrogating to themselves more enlightened views of legislation than their fellow-citizens, are accustomed to accuse the good people of Edinburgh, (and the reproach is extended generally to the whole population of Scotland) of a slavish submission to their rulers, and a criminal supineness in reclaiming their lost rights: In a word, these gentlemen wish to see exhibited at Edinburgh the same scenes which so frequently disgrace a Westminster poll,—where the freedom of election is virtually annihilated, the favourite of the mob and his supporters being alone thought worthy of enjoying the rights of Englishmen. It must be confessed that the natives of North Britain have

Reform of Burghs---Major Cartwright.

great burthens rendered necessary by a war so protracted and so extensive, but as just and necessary in its primary motives and ultimate objects, as glorious in its final result.

relish for this kind of liberty; yet they have ever stood foremost in the senate, when their *real liberties* were at stake,---and, "in the " field of proud honour," when the wrongs of their country were to be avenged. They leave to the demagogues of the capital to insult their sovereign,---to fly in the face of the laws---and by seditious harangues to instigate to acts of the most daring outrage the unenlightened part of the community. They know well that, by such proceedings, liberty has often been destroyed, never promoted.

A political Don Quixote,---who for half a century has obstinately persevered in his attempts to persuade the people of Britain that they are the 'most degraded slaves in the world!---lately made a reforming pilgrimage throughout these northern regions, in order to arouse the sons of Caledonia to a sense of their degradation: The result was, a meeting held last year of the citizens* of Edinburgh to petition Parliament for *reform*. O that we had the pencil of a Hogarth to delineate this motely group! The president, his supporters, and the whole assembly, admirably harmonised. Meetings no less *numerous* and *respectable* have been held in some other towns of Scotland---but the 'country seems unmoved by their patriotic labours.

Many sensible and well-meaning men, altogether unconnected with the reformers above alluded to, have long been of opinion, that the extension of *the elective franchise* throughout the Scottish burghs would produce salutary effects, and correct many abuses that at present prevail. But until this great measure is under-

* *i. e.* About 300 or 400 of the rabble, including some of those steady friends to Liberty formerly styling themselves "*Friends of the People*,"---but more recently "*Friends to BUONAPARTE*,"---that enlightened Champion of Continental Liberty!

Loyalty of Edinburgh---Restoration of the Bourbons.

The city of EDINBURGH not only contributed its full share of the expences of the war, but sent forth many of her heroic youth to participate in its perils and enjoy its triumphs. The First Regiment of Edinburgh Volunteer Infantry* alone, sent above 600 officers to the regular army and militia: And if this metropolis joined in the general exultation excited by our naval triumphs,—by the success of our gallant army in the Peninsula,—its triumphant march through France,—the proud triumphs of our allies,—and, above all, by the glorious day of Waterloo;—still many of her citizens must ever remember these memorable events with feelings of a far different nature; theirs, at least, must be the “joy of grief.”—Posterity will hardly give us credit for the feelings exhibited on the *Restoration of the Bourbons* to the throne of their ancestors. An unanimous burst of enthusiasm pervaded the whole city and neighbourhood, and every human being, from the Peer to the most humble member of the community, mounted the white cockade, and forgot for a time every care in the general exultation. The illumination that

taken by abler and more virtuous members of the community than have hitherto presented themselves, we must deprecate every unhallowed attempt to pull down or repair even the most insignificant pillar of the ancient fabric of the British constitution.

* For an account of the institution of this corps, see p. 44.

Progressive Improvement of Edinburgh.

took place on this occasion perhaps surpassed every thing that had been exhibited during the war : Mankind hailed this event as the termination of their fears and sufferings, and the consummation of all their labours. The baneful star of Napoleon had set in darkness—and the star of Peace had arisen to diffuse its long-wished-for blessings on a suffering world. If our anticipated happiness has in some measure disappointed our expectation, let us wait patiently the march of events ; though slow, the amelioration of circumstances will, it is hoped, be progressive, and at no great distance every reasonable hope may yet be realised.

Although the war has unquestionably proved hurtful to many branches of trade, and ruinous to many individuals, the city of Edinburgh has notwithstanding continued rapidly to increase in opulence, and population, and to improve in every comfort of life.

The original plan of the New Town has not only been completed, but even extended beyond its original limits,—witness that fine street named *Maitland Street*, and *Shandwick Place*, which runs west from Princes Street, about a quarter of a mile along the Glasgow road. The beautiful *New City*, (as it may justly be styled,)

New Town—Proofs of the Opulence of Edinburgh.

erected partly on the grounds of Bellevue, north of the New Town, proceeds with astonishing rapidity. The magnificent Street, *Heriot-row*, is entirely completed; *Northumberland Street* is far advanced; and *King Street*, the third great parallel street, (dividing this fine city into two equal parts, as George Street does the New Town) has been commenced, and proceeds with great spirit:—not to mention *Howe Street*, *Dundas Street*, *Nelson Street*, *Duke Street*, &c. which cross these at right angles; and various fine new streets which are annually opening to the east of Bellevue. The delightful prospects that burst upon the view from all those cross streets, can hardly be conceived by those who have not visited a city romantic beyond any other in the world.

But the most unequivocal proof of the increased and increasing opulence of the community, in spite of a war so often characterised as unjust, calamitous, and utterly ruinous, is to be found in the number and elegance of the *Villas* that surround Edinburgh on all sides: About twenty-five years ago there was scarcely a single citizen's country residence to be met with either on the north or south of the city; at this moment there are nearly one hundred villas betwixt Edinburgh and the Firth of Forth; and south of Edinburgh, along that fine new road which has been recently opened from Nicolson Street, crossing the Pow-burn by a handsome bridge,

Arniston Place---Newington---Calton-hill.

and joining the Dalkeith road about two miles from Edinburgh, not fewer than fifty commodious villas have within the last few years been reared, under the general name of *Arniston Place* and *Newington*; and betwixt Grange Toll and Morningside, and from the latter place to Edinburgh by Burntsfield Links, a greater number of villas, some of them built on plans of superior elegance, with spacious gardens and parks, have recently appeared: And from the annual increase of these villas, it is hardly possible to give the reader any idea of their number and situation. It must be here remarked also, that many of these houses are used only as the *summer residence* of the shopkeepers and other citizens of Edinburgh. The improvements on the *Calton-hill*, and the magnificent *New Road* connecting that hill with Princes Street, shall be afterwards particularly mentioned. Another *New City* has been projected on the grounds belonging to Heriot's Hospital, adjoining the Calton-hill on the East, and connecting the Town of Leith with Edinburgh. Several ingenious artists have already furnished plans in a style of singular beauty. The distresses of the country have hitherto retarded the commencement of this great work. *

* See Report by Mr STARK, on the Plans for laying out the Grounds for Building between Edinburgh and Leith, at the end of this Volume.

Men of Learning in Edinburgh.

Learned Men, and Literary Productions.

EDINBURGH has long enjoyed the proud distinction of being considered as the *Athens of the North*. Whatever justice there may be in this appellation, it is universally admitted that her *Medical School* is the first in Europe ; nor is her University less distinguished as a School of *Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Humanity*, and every other branch of knowledge. To prove this, we need only mention the names of GREGORY, the MONROES, DUNCAN, STUART, PLAYFAIR, LESLIE, HOPE, &c. who so ably fill the chairs of PITCAIRN, the elder GREGORY and MONRO, MACLAURIN, CULLEN, BLACK, ROBISON, &c. Besides these, several gentlemen, unconnected with the University, but of the first professional eminence, give lectures on Chemistry, Anatomy, &c. We need hardly mention the well-known names of THOMSON, MURRAY, BARCLAY, GORDON, &c.

During the last 20 years, Edinburgh has not been less remarkable for every branch of general literature. The *Encyclopædia Britannica* may be fairly ranked among the first productions of the kind in the world: This work has already

Encyclopædias.---Edinburgh Review.

reached five editions. Another work, on the same plan, viz. *The Edinburgh Encyclopædia*, is at present publishing, and pretty far advanced; and a third has recently made its appearance, under the title of *Encyclopædia Edinensis*, intended to obviate the objections that have been made to the great extent and enormous expense of the other two, by compressing every branch of useful knowledge within the compass of *Six Volumes*, in place of twenty-four or thirty volumes.

But the most surprising literary phenomenon that has ever appeared in this country is the *Edinburgh Review*, a work commenced in the year 1802, by some young gentlemen of the law, eminent for their attainments in almost every branch of literature, and published by a bookseller of the greatest enterprize that this country has ever produced. What is most singular in the history of this review is, that the earlier numbers have undergone not fewer than *ten editions*!—a fact without a parallel in the history of periodical publications. It is published *quarterly*, and above 12,000 copies are regularly sold. Its discussions on every branch of literature are original, deep, unusually elegant, and generally correct. It is distinguished by a character of independence, and, where politics is not concerned, of impartiality, which we in vain looked for in similar publications before the appearance of this review. In *politics*, the jus-

Edinburgh Review.---Annual Register.

tice of its decisions is more questionable, and the sagacity of its predictions has rarely been justified by the event. It has been also objected to this celebrated work, that, even on subjects relating solely to literature, where the harsher passions ought not to be called forth, the caustic severity of its censures has more frequently excited the indignation, than commanded the assent, of its readers. It must be acknowledged, however, that the *Edinburgh Review* is one of the most interesting works that has ever been published in the country, and that its able and enlightened disquisitions have accelerated the march of improvement in almost every branch of general literature. In fine, the Editors of this work may be justly said to have founded a *New School of Criticism*, where the discussions are more original, interesting, and independent, than those of any former Critical Journal,—and conducted on a plan entirely dissimilar. If these gentlemen, to the acknowledged genius which illuminates their pages, would deign to add somewhat more of candour and benevolence; if they would chastise with rods, and not with scorpions, they would secure not merely the admiration, but the approbation of their innumerable readers.

In the year 1808, the *Edinburgh Annual Register* was published in 2 vols. 8vo.; a work al-

Medical Journal.—Farmer's Magazine.

ready extending to 12 volumes, very ably conducted, and comprising a period of paramount interest. The historical parts are said to have been written by the celebrated poets SOUTHEY and SCOTT.

Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal.—This Journal was first published in the year 1805, and succeeded to the Annals of Medicine, which were at that time given up. Considering the great reputation which this city enjoys as a School of Medicine, it would be a matter of surprize if a publication of this kind should fail to rank high in the estimation of the public. The valuable contributions which are made to this work, and the excellent manner in which it is conducted, ensure it a very extensive circulation in the medical world.

The Farmer's Magazine.—This Magazine was commenced in the year 1800, and has been continued quarterly. The design of this publication is, “to collect and disseminate ingenious theories, important and well authenticated facts, and accurate experiments, which relate to the different branches of rural economy.” From such a work, great advantages might have been expected; and accordingly it has proved of the greatest importance in giving an extensive circulation to every improvement in this branch of knowledge.

Scots Magazine, &c.

The Scots Magazine.—The Scots Magazine, or Edinburgh Literary Miscellany, has been continued upwards of 70 years, during which period it must have suffered changes in point of merit and circulation, yet it has always been esteemed an accurate and judicious publication; and, in the opinion of competent judges, it still holds a respectable place among the preceding list of periodical publications.

The works of SCOTT and CAMPBELL are too well known to be here more particularly noticed. Their names alone, not to mention those of the late lamented GRAHAM, LEYDEN, and MURRAY,* would render any country illustrious.

The *Belles Esprits* of Edinburgh bid fair to rival the most celebrated novel writers of the sister kingdom. The names of MACKENZIE,† Miss BAILLIE, Mrs HAMILTON, and Mrs GRANT, would do honour to any age,—and *Guy Mannering*, *Waterley*, *The Antiquary*, *Clan-Albin*, *Discipline*, &c. need not shrink from a comparison with the works of a Fielding, a Smollet, a Burney, or an Edgeworth.

* Mr Murray, Professor of Oriental Languages—not a poet, indeed,—but one of the most distinguished, and almost *self-taught* scholars, that Britain has ever produced.

† Mr H. Mackenzie ought perhaps to be classed among the writers of a former period; and some of the others above alluded to, do not belong exclusively to Edinburgh:—but they generally reside there, and their works have issued from the presses of that city.

Scottish National Music.

Scottish National Music and Poetry.

The *National Airs* and *Lyric Poetry* of Scotland are confessedly unrivalled by those of any nation in the world. These airs, simple, pathetic, and often wildly romantic, have long been admired by every foreigner of taste ; but “ when married to immortal verse,” the union becomes irresistibly affecting, and in the heart of a true Scotchman calls forth a thousand interesting associations. These beautiful Airs have now been collected and published, in four splendid volumes, * by a gentleman peculiarly qualified for the undertaking † ; and the Editor has not only carefully collected every interesting old Scottish and English Song, but has enriched his work with all the finest productions of the immortal Bard of Caledonia, the greater number of whose inimitable lyric effusions were written for this work. The *Airs* are given in the most simple and beautiful form ; but the *Symphonies* and *Accompaniments* are by the first masters in Europe and when we inform our readers, that this work has been enriched by the united talents of Pleyel, Kozeluch, Haydn, and Beethoven, procured at a prodigious expence, and with unwearied perseverance, we think it unnecessary

* A fifth Volume, intended to be published this year, will complete this interesting collection.

† Mr GEORGE THOMSON, Trustee's Office, Edinburgh.

Edinburgh Institution for Sacred Music.

to add another word on the Editor's claim to the gratitude of his countrymen.

The same gentleman is at present publishing, in a style equally splendid and correct, the *Welsh and Irish Airs*;—two volumes of the former, and two of the latter, having already appeared, enriched, like the *Scottish Airs*, by the talents of Haydn and Beethoven, and by the lyric productions of the greatest poets of the present day. When these works are completed, they will form the noblest monument to the national music and lyric poetry of the British Isles that has ever been reared by a private individual. *

*Edinburgh Institution for the Encouragement
of Sacred Music.*

This Institution was first projected in November 1815, a short time subsequent to the Musical Festival, the splendid success of which in all probability first suggested the idea.—In order to ascertain the encouragement which might be expected from the public, and particularly from the Clergy, upon whom, for obvious reasons, the success of the scheme in a great measure depended, a prospectus was published, stating in detail the objects of the pro-

* These works are indeed truly *National*; and had the Editor lived under a *Lorenzo de Medici*, the patronage and munificence of his prince would have animated and rewarded his labours.

Edinburgh Institution for Sacred Music.

posed establishment. This paper was very favourably received, not only by the public, but by many whose high rank and official situations enabled them to patronise the project effectually, and so to render its success no longer a matter of probability. Among those whose exertions were eminently serviceable, the Lord Provost (ARBUTHNOT) was most conspicuous; this gentleman, having, with his accustomed zeal for public improvement, agreed at every period to give the design his countenance, and even solicited in his own name the patronage of those eminent persons who since accepted the higher offices of the Institution. In consequence of these favourable steps in the business, a public meeting was held on the 28th December 1815, on which occasion a set of resolutions were framed, and directors and other office-bearers were chosen. Immediately after this meeting, it was resolved to proceed without delay to the instruction of the singers. Of these a sufficient number was procured without any difficulty, and the directors were even under the necessity of rejecting a great many applications. Since that period, the progress of the teaching, conducted by Mr Mather, has been astonishingly rapid; and, already, three public concerts have been given, one in the assembly rooms, and two in the Episcopal Chapel, Cowgate, the band, vocal and instrumental, consisting of about 300 performers. It is gratifying to learn that these

Edinburgh Institution for Sacred Music.

concerts were numerously attended ; and it is creditable to the people of this city, that this deserving institution should have received very considerable patronage and support, at a period of unexampled pecuniary embarrassment. We trust, however, it has been patronised,—not from any transitory motives connected with fashion, but from a full conviction of its utility,—from a sense of the important and agreeable consequences which it involves. The church music of Scotland, it must be confessed, has long been a subject of national reproach. But much may be expected from the exertions that have been made by this Society, which has been instituted for the express purpose of improving psalmody and sacred music, by the continued instruction of a number of singers, who, “ being diffused throughout the various places of worship which they are accustomed to attend, and becoming serviceable as precentors and teachers, will improve the psalmody, by leading all classes to engage in it more generally, and with more skill *.”

* *The following are the original Resolutions of the*
EDINBURGH INSTITUTION

FOR THE
ENCOURAGEMENT OF SACRED MUSIC,

Edinburgh, Dec. 28. 1815.

AT a numerous Meeting of Gentlemen connected with Edinburgh, including a large proportion of Clergy, held within the Council Chambers of the city ;

The

CHAP. II.

Parliament House.---Writers to the Signet's Library.---Advocate's Library.---Exchequer Buildings.---County Hall.---St George's Church.---Bishop Sandford's Chapel.---Mr Alison's Chapel.---Catholic Chapel.---Nelson's Monument.---New Jails.---Prince Regent's Bridge, and New Road over the Calton.---Lunatic Asylum.---Improvements of the Town of LEITH.

 PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

A few years ago, the building called the Parliament House was felt to be insufficient in size for the purposes to which it was appropriated, in consequence of which considerable improve-

 EDINBURGH INSTITUTION FOR SACRED MUSIC.

The Right Hon. the LORD PROVOST in the Chair;

His Lordship having, in an introductory speech, explained the general objects of the Meeting, the following Resolutions were moved by the Very Rev. Mr Principal BAIRD, and seconded by the Rev. Sir HENRY MONCRIEFF WELLWOOD, Baronet, and unanimously adopted:

1.---This Meeting earnestly desirous to diffuse a general taste for sacred music, and anxious in particular to promote a disposition among Congregations to join in the Psalmody of the Churches, resolves, That a society shall be formed here, to be called "The Edinburgh Institution for the Encouragement of Sacred Music."

2.---That the leading object of this Institution shall be to instruct Singers in the performance of Church Music and Oratorios.

3.---That

Parliament House.

ments and additions were projected. The estimated expence of these, according to the plan given in, amounted to L.51,000. Perhaps this intention would not have been so speedily carried into effect, had it not been discovered about the same period, that a fund, amounting to

EDINBURGH INSTITUTION FOR SACRED MUSIC.

3.—That for carrying this object into effect, a Band of Chorus-singers, assisted by amateurs and professional men, shall be established, who shall hold regular meetings at such times and places as may be determined by the Directors after mentioned; and that at these meetings a selection of Church Music and Oratorios shall be performed.

4.—That with reference to the cultivation of Church Music, the Meeting, while it disclaims all wish or design to interfere with the arrangements judged most advisable by particular Congregations, entertains a confident hope, that the Singers thus taught, being diffused throughout the various places of worship which they are accustomed to attend, and becoming serviceable as precentors and teachers, will improve the psalmody, by leading all classes to engage in it more generally, and with greater skill.

5.—That for the maintenance of an Institution thus useful, the public at large shall be invited to give it their countenance; and that the amateurs of Edinburgh, in particular, shall be earnestly solicited to come forward, and take a part in the performances.

6.—That Annual Subscribers of One Guinea shall be Members of the Society, and enjoy the privilege, along with one of their family, of attending the performances.

7.—That there shall be one President and twelve Vice-Presidents.

8.—That the ordinary direction shall be vested in a Committee, containing ten Clergymen and ten Lay Subscribers.

9.—That there shall be an Annual meeting of the Subscribers upon the third Monday of January, at which meeting a Report from the Committee of Management shall be laid before them.

Then, upon the motion of Henry Jardine, Esq. the direction of the Institution was vested in the following Noblemen and Gentlemen :—

PRESIDENT.

Parliament House.

L30,000, which had furnished part of the salaries of the Judges, ceased to be applied to its original purpose. A bill was immediately carried through Parliament ; but it is to be regretted that it had received the approbation of so few persons

EDINBURGH INSTITUTION FOR SACRED MUSIC.**PRESIDENT.**

His Grace the Duke of Buccleugh and Queensberry.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Right Hon. the Lord Provost
 Most Noble the Marquis of Lothian
 Right Hon. the Earl of Moray
 Right Hon. the Earl of Wemyss and March
 Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie
 Right Hon. the Earl of Leven and Melville
 Right Hon. Lord Gray
 Right Hon. Lord Justice Clerk
 Right Hon. Lord Chief Baron
 Right Hon. Lord Chief Commissioner
 Right Hon. William Dundas, M. P.
 Sir George Clerk, Bart. M. P.

DIRECTORS.

Very Rev. Mr Principal Baird, <i>Convener.</i>	Rev. R. Q. Shannon
Rev. Sir H. Moncrieff Well-	Gilbert Innes, Esq.
wood, Baronet	Alexander Irving, Esq.
--- Dr Thomas Fleming	G. F. Graham, Esq.
--- Dr John Campbell	William Grant, Esq.
--- Dr Thomas Macknight	G. Thomson, Esq.
--- Dr William Ritchie	G. Wood, Esq.
--- Dr A. Brunton	G. Burnet, Esq.
--- Andrew Thomson	Dr A. Duncan, junior.
--- Archibald Alison	J. G. Dalyell, Esq.
	Maxwell Gordon, Esq.

TREASURER.

Robert Johnston, Esq.

SECRETARIES.

James Bridges, Esq.
 James Baxter, Esq.

Mr Mather, *Conductor*.---Mr Penson, *Leader*.

Parliament House.---Writers to the Signet's Library.

that their opinion could hardly be expected to con-
cide with that of the public. In consequence
of these measures, the present structure has
been raised. The original *front* of the Parlia-
ment House has been removed, in order to make
room for a Piazza. In doing this, an expence
has been incurred which might have been avoid-
ed, because its former appearance certainly cor-
responded intimately with the interior, while it
was not perhaps less ornamental than that which
has arisen in its place. The modern edifice not
only encroaches upon the area of the square,
but it ill harmonizes with the gothic grandeur
of this venerable and interesting range of build-
ings. We rejoice to observe that the much
admired equestrian statue of Charles the Second
has been repaired in a manner worthy of its ex-
quisite workmanship; and nothing now remains
to make the whole unique, but to take away the
paltry shops, which have so long disfigured the
venerable church of St Giles.

A magnificent building has been erected, im-
mediately adjoining to the Parliament House,
and running at right angles with the west side
of the square, for the accommodation of the
Advocates and Writers to the Signet's Libra-
ries.

Writers to the Signet's Library.

WRITERS TO THE SIGNET'S LIBRARY.

(*Extracted from the Caledonian Mercury, Jan. 25. 1816.*)

It is with much pleasure that we call the attention of the Public to the Hall lately erected by the Society of Writers to the Signet, for the reception of their valuable library. Considering this Hall as one of the chief ornaments of the city, we have no hesitation in pointing it out to our fellow citizens as an example of pure and classical taste.

When the Society resolved to provide a room for the display of their present collection, and the accommodation of the augmentations which it is annually receiving, they purchased the ground storey of a building recently erected in the immediate vicinity of the Parliament House, and entrusted the interior arrangement and decoration to the late Mr Stark.

Many difficulties must always present themselves in adapting a building to a purpose for which it was not originally intended; particularly when it is impossible to permit any alteration whatever, either in the external architecture, or in any of the dimensions of the allotted space. In this instance, however, these difficulties are so happily surmounted, that neither is there any defect for which it is necessary to seek an apology, nor the slightest appearance of constraint.

Writers to the Signet's Library.

The space assigned for the Library being very long in proportion to its other dimensions, Mr Stark has divided it by open arches into two parts, the first of which is oblong, and the second square. The cieling of the oblong division is supported by two rows of Corinthian columns, which, besides, being very elegant in themselves, completely obviate the difficulty presented by the want of height, which would otherwise have been very remarkable in so large a room. On entering the great door, the colonnade, continued for intercolumnations, without any break or interruption, produces a simple and noble effect, and, through the ornamental arches by which this part of the hall is separated from the inner apartment, the latter appears rich and magnificent. Nor is the view from the upper end of the room at all inferior; the colonnade, as seen through the arch, receding from the eye in regular and beautiful gradation.

Architecture can boast of nothing superior to a well-proportioned colonnade, nor can bad taste be more conspicuously displayed than in marring the effect of what is so susceptible of magnificence. Mr Stark was too modest, and too sincere an admirer of ancient art, to imagine that he could improve models which have commanded the admiration of ages. Every deviation, also, which he saw from the antique, confirmed his opinion of the danger of departing

Writers to the Signet's Library.

from the proportion observed in the best edifices of Greece. His designs have, therefore, a chaste and classical air, which, besides their intrinsic excellence, will recommend them to every man of improved taste.

It happened, fortunately, that the distance between the windows was such as suited the space proper between columns of the dimensions required for the height of cieling. Had this been otherwise, there is no doubt that Mr Stark would have altogether abandoned the idea of a colonnade ; for nothing can be more fatal to its beauty, than those wide and straggling intercolumnations which are sometimes adopted with the view of giving lightness to a design. Their effect is directly the reverse ; the entablature, in such cases appearing insufficiently supported. The whole elegance of the arrangements is, at the same time, sacrificed to this preposterous attempt at lightness ; the proportion of the height to the width of the spaces is materially injured, and every thing like relation between the voids and solids, from the alternation of which the beauty of a colonnade chiefly arises, is lost to the eye.

It is impossible to terminate this brief and imperfect sketch without noticing the good taste displayed in painting the room. Where simplicity is characteristic, variety of tints would have injured the general effect ; and where the architecture is well proportioned, no additional

Writers to the Signet's Library.

relief, by the contrast of colours, is desirable. When the painting requires renewal, we beg to submit that even the gilding of the rail of the gallery should be removed or confined to the edges and veins of the foliage; for it is not altogether in harmony with the rest of the room, and the decided cincture which it forms behind the columns is, in a slight degree, hurtful to their contour.

The books contained in this noble apartment constitute, we believe, one of the best chosen collections in this country; and the Society, we understand, are taking steps to carry it forward upon an enlarged scale.

We have never met with so large a room so completely and so comfortably heated. A glow of pleasant warm air is perceptible the moment one enters the room, without the slightest degree of the strong smell which generally occurs where heat is conveyed through tubes. The fire-place is constructed in one of the cellars—the heat is derived from a cast-iron cockle about nine feet high, and conducted by pipes, through the whole length of the room, terminating in cast-iron tables, from under which the heated air is delivered into the room by a very neat contrivance for regulating the quantity of it, so that the room may be kept at any temperature that may be required. The pipes which convey the air from the stove-tables are surrounded with

Advocates Library.

brick and tiles, so as to secure them from any danger of communicating fire.

The difficulty of heating large rooms has long been severely felt; and we congratulate Mr James Jardine, the engineer, under whose directions this apparatus has been constructed, for the successful result of his ingenuity.

ADVOCATES LIBRARY.

The number of books in this Library has accumulated to such a degree, that the apartments in which they were formerly contained are no longer sufficient for their accommodation. In order to remedy this defect, a room immediately above the Writers Library, 136 feet long, 39 in breadth, with a lofty roof, is at present fitting up in a style of great elegance for their reception. The dimensions of this room are more favourable than those of the one below, for the display of that beauty and splendour for which the latter is so distinguished; and from what is already done, there is no doubt that it will, when executed, be found fully worthy of its superior advantages. The circumstance of its being partly lighted from the roof by an elegant dome, is no inconsiderable point of superiority. There are other two apartments of a lesser size on the same floor, and also two lobbies below, one of which is intended to be an entrance for the ad-

Exchequer Buildings.

vocates to the Parliament House, in which they may equip themselves in their proper costume. The advocates have been much favoured by Government in the share of the new building which they have received. They contributed ground for a site to the edifice worth L.3000, and in return have been presented with a portion of the building valued at L.12,000, while the writers have paid L.5000 for the room on the ground floor. *

EXCHEQUER BUILDINGS.

Immediately adjoining to the Parliament House, are the apartments for the accommodation of the Court of Exchequer, and the various

* The *interior* of both these Libraries is peculiarly beautiful, and striking; that of the *Advocates* when finished, will be one of the most magnificent in the kingdom. This noble hall, as well as that of the Writers to the Signet, was wholly designed by that classic and accomplished Architect, the late WILLIAM STARK Esq., who, though he had no hand in the *outside* of the building, yielded to the pressing invitation of the Faculty of Advocates, and of the Writers to the Signet, to take the sole charge of making designs for the interior. Those only who saw the building before his operations, can fully appreciate the value of the judicious dispositions which he made to find sufficiency of room for the books, and of light for those spacious halls, and yet to preserve all that symmetry of form, proportions, and decoration which the eye requires. But every one who sees them in their finished state, with all the purity of design and exquisite taste displayed by the Artist, must deeply regret that such great talents were not employed upon any of the *recent public buildings* of this city, before they were forever lost to the public, by his premature and lamented death.

County Hall.---St George's Church.

offices connected with it. The principal of these is an elegant Court-room, the figure of which is nearly simicircular, commodiously fitted up for Exchequer trials. Since the institution of the Jury Court, its trials have been principally conducted in this room.

COUNTY HALL.

Upon the west of the Advocates Library a new County Hall is at present erecting, and is in a state of considerable forwardness. From what is already executed, it promises nothing remarkable in its external appearance to attract the attention of a stranger, though it will no doubt suit well the purpose for which it is intended. Its estimated expence is L.17000. It is built from a design of Mr ELLIOT of London.

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH.

This church forms part of the west side of Charlotte square. It presents to the square a front of 112 feet, with a portico supported by four Ionic columns, 35 feet high. They are elevated on an extensive flight of steps which form an entrance to the church. Its extreme breadth is 128 feet, and it can accommodate 1600 persons. Behind the portico, a dome rises upon a basement 48 feet square, above which there is a circular row of columns with their entablature and ballustrade. The dome is surmounted by a lantern of eight columns, at a

St George's Church.

height of 160 feet from the ground. It has been raised to a height far beyond the limits of proportion ; the intention in doing which was, that it might produce a fine effect from a distance, as seen rising from the surrounding buildings ; but for the sake of a distant and only partial view, the symmetry and consistency of the structure on a near inspection ought not to have been sacrificed.

Charlotte Square was designed by the illustrious Adam, who has done so much for the ornament of our city ; and the church, as forming a part of the square, was included in the original plan. The architect is said to have exhausted his inimitable talents in endeavouring to make it such an object as could not fail to attract the attention and reverence of strangers, and his plan had received the unqualified approbation of the most competent judges. Notwithstanding these recommendations, it was thought proper to reject it, and to erect in its stead a building which stands but low in the public estimation, and is without doubt unworthy of the place it occupies. Perhaps no situation can be conceived more favourable for displaying the beauties of architecture—forming a part of a noble square, and terminating the *vista* of one of the finest streets in Europe. But if beauties may be seen to advantage, it is obvious that every dereliction of taste and judgment cannot fail to

Bishop Sandford's Chapel.—Chapel, York Place.

appear in its most glaring colours ;—here errors cannot be concealed, nor deformity softened.

BISHOP SANDFORD'S CHAPEL. *

This Chapel, which, when finished, will form one of the finest ornaments of the city, and far outrival every previous building of the same description in Edinburgh, is already in a state of considerable forwardness. It is intended for the reception of Bishop Sandford's audience, many of whom are people of the first distinction in town, the former chapel which was situated at the west end of Rose Street, having been felt inadequate to accommodate the congregation. This truly elegant structure is situated at the western extremity of Princes Street, adjacent to the West Church ; it is 112 feet long, by 62 in breadth, presenting its side to Princes Street. A spire is to rise upon the west end, of the height of 130 feet. In the other end there is a window 30 feet long, by 17 in breadth, the stone work of which has a rich and beautiful appearance.

EPISCOPAL CHAPEL, YORK PLACE. *

This Chapel is erecting for the very numerous and genteel audience attracted by the celebrity of the two clergymen, (Messrs Alison and Morehead) who perform the services of the

* Both these Chapels are built in the most classic style of Gothic architecture.

Catholic Chapel.

Cowgate Chapel. The situation of the latter had become so remote and inconvenient, and the access to it so disagreeable, that such a step could no longer be delayed. The new building is situated at the eastern extremity of York Place. The length is 116 feet by 63 in breadth, and the height of the body of the church 50 feet. There are to be two towers at each end which are intended to rise to the height of 75 feet, and the intermediate pinnacles will be 14 feet in height above the body of the Church. The altar window in the eastern end, is 32 feet high and 13 feet wide; and in the other end there is also a window, the dimensions of which are not much inferior. The principal entrance is on the west, by a door which is considerably ornamented. It is thought this Chapel will when finished, be equal, if not superior to that classic model of Gothic architecture now rising in Princes Street. It is estimated to cost about L,9000.

CATHOLIC CHAPEL.

An elegant Roman-Catholic Chapel has been lately erected near Corri's Rooms, at the head of Leith Walk, to supply the place of the one which was burnt in the year 1780. It presents its east end to the street, and it is to this part that the ornaments are confined, while the rest of the structure is nearly concealed from public

Nelson's Monument.

view. The front is executed in the Gothic style, perhaps as pure as is any where to be met with in modern buildings. The door is surmounted by a pointed arch, supported by columns, and the windows, one of which is of considerable size, are also pointed above. The interior has a corresponding, but a plainer appearance; an excellent painting by Vandyke, forms the altar-piece, the subject of which is a dead Saviour, Joseph of Arimathea, and the two Marys. It was presented to the Chapel by Miss Chalmers, a nun, daughter of Sir G. Chalmers portrait-painter, and its estimated value is L.800 to L.1000. This building has been much admired; but after the erection of the Episcopal Chapels, it will cease to attract so much of the public attention.

NELSON'S MONUMENT.

Nelson's Monument is a noble ornament to the city, whether we regard its singularly imposing and romantic situation, or the purpose for which it has been erected. The prospect from the top of it, which is 102 feet from the ground, is in the highest degree interesting, perhaps on the whole unequalled in the vicinity of Edinburgh. From this we command a view of the Forth, and its shores, the New Town, with the rich fields lying to the north, the Castle, the Old Town, Arthur Seat, and a very extensive range of scenery. Princes Street has a fine appearance from this point, while from it

New Jail.

the Monument in its turn forms a most attractive and beautiful object. The circular range of apartments on the ground floor are rented by a publican, who is restricted from selling intoxicating liquors. It was at one time rumoured, that the interior was to be occupied by some of our brave old Tars, who had been disabled in the service of their country. *

NEW JAIL.

A new Jail, intended for the reception of criminals, has been erected on the Calton Hill adjacent to Bridwell, and situated on the space between it and the Calton burial-ground. Of all the proposed situations for the Jail, the one which has been adopted is by far the least, if at all, objectionable. On the other hand, its advantages are numerous, and so striking, as to render it a matter of surprize, that there ever should have existed the smallest hesitation in fixing upon it, in preference to the others proposed. The principal point of superiority is the purity of the air, without which all other conveniences would have been to little purpose, from its being so essential to the health of per-

* Although this Monument, from its imposing situation has certainly a magnificent effect, we cannot in this, as in too many other instances, sufficiently regret that unaccountable departure from the classic models of antiquity, so often complained of by every man of correct taste. As we deviate from these admirable models, we stray from nature, and loss sight of perfection.

New Jail.

sons in confinement. The situation afforded an excellent opportunity for a display of architectural skill; and as it was public property, the saving of expence which was thereby effected must be regarded as not the least of its recommendations. This structure is three stories high, except the wings and centre, which rise to the height of four. The lower story is laid out for day rooms, and arcades, in which the prisoners may walk in rainy weather. The middle story is intended to be a chapel, from which there runs a passage to each end of the building. The prisoners rooms, which are 58 in number, are arranged on each end of these passages. The Governor's house is at present erecting upon the edge of the precipice south of the Jail, containing, besides accommodations for his family, a committee room, of a circular form, 25 feet in diameter, and a store-room of the same dimensions below. There is a watch-tower on the side of the house next to the Jail, from which the Governor may see all the prisoners in the airing ground. Both the buildings are to be surrounded by a high wall.

The height of the Jail is not so considerable as to render it an attractive or conspicuous object at a distance; but from the road now preparing, which passes in front of it, it has perhaps as fine an appearance as any structure can have which excites in the mind a train of melancholy

Regent's Bridge.

associations. The Governor's house, from its being situated on the verge of a precipitous rock, is a striking object, particularly in coming along the North Bridge. Another Jail, we understand, is to be erected for the debtors, on the east side of Bridewell.

REGENT'S BRIDGE.

The foundation of this Bridge, as well as of the Jail, took place on the 19th September 1815, on which occasion there was a masonic procession, which was more numerous and splendid than any thing of the kind ever seen in Edinburgh. This noble work will, when finished, constitute the most striking architectural feature of this metropolis, and will show that its inhabitants do not want that spirit of improvement which is worthy of a city possessed, in a degree superior to any other, of the most important natural advantages. There cannot perhaps exist a more unequivocal proof, that there was no foundation for the assertions of those who so clamorously represented the late war as ruinous to the country ; for the execution of a work, involving an expence of upwards of L.100,000, must necessarily evince a very considerable degree of prosperity. The scheme of continuing Princes Street to the Calton-hill has long been a favourite speculation, having been first pro-

Lunatic Asylum.

posed about 40 years ago by ADAM, whose acute mind at once perceived its numerous advantages, combining, in an eminent degree, utility with ornament. The approach by the London road has been long and justly complained of as mean and inconvenient, and by no means corresponding with the elegance of the city in other respects. A new road is at present preparing in communication with the Regent's Bridge, and winding around the south-east side of the Calton-hill, which will effectually wipe away the reproach existing hitherto, and form a most magnificent entrance to the city.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The first proposal for the institution of a Lunatic Asylum was made in the year 1792, by Dr Duncan, senior, when president of the College of Physicians. Previous to that time, medical practitioners had experienced numerous difficulties in the treatment of insane persons, arising from the want of a proper establishment of this nature. It was originally intended that the Royal Infirmary should be an hospital for the cure of insanity as well as of other diseases. Experience, however, soon demonstrated that this situation was incapable of affording many conveniences which are essential to the cure of lunatics, while at the same time these persons

Lunatic Asylum.

were highly distressing to the other patients. This scheme was therefore soon abandoned, and the cells intended for the reception of maniacs appropriated to other purposes. There were also several private mad-houses in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh; but such institutions, it is well known, are liable to the most lamentable abuses. In these circumstances, the establishment of a liberal and well regulated hospital, which might afford an opportunity of recovery to all ranks of patients, became an object of great importance. The plan therefore was received, as might have been expected, with general approbation; yet the sum collected was inconsiderable, and altogether insufficient for carrying it into execution. The money was, however, deposited at interest, and the sum of L.2000 was procured from Government for the same purpose. The greater part of this money has been laid out in the purchase of a most convenient piece of ground in the vicinity of Edinburgh,* with a house already built upon it. Keeping in view the slender funds of the institution, a plan for the building has been adopted, the parts of which are separate and independent, and may be put to immediate use when finished. Unless this had been done, many years would have e-

* At Morningside, the Montpelier of Mid-Lothian, about one mile and a half from Edinburgh.

Methodists Church.

lapsed before the funds could have been adequate for the completion of the whole plan. The building is to form a square, of which two wings only of one side are finished. The expence of the whole is expected to amount to L.20,000, a sum which will not be speedily obtained by the usual method of subscription. But for L.5000 or 6000, one side of the square might be finished, which is so contrived as to admit of a temporary division of patients, according to their condition. Such patients as belong to a high rank in life, being furnished with superior accommodation, pay a very liberal board; and thus the benefits of the institution can be extended to poor patients, for little or no remuneration; and as the whole is under the inspection of all the medical gentlemen in town, it affords advantages superior to those of any private mad-house. It will, when finished, be sufficient for the accommodation of L.200 patients, who will be received from all parts of the country.

METHODIST'S CHURCH.

A very handsome church has been lately erected in Nicholson Square, by a congregation of Methodists, whose former church was pulled down for the erection of the Regent's Bridge. It is situated at the south-west corner, and forms a very ornamental addition to the square.

Improvements of Leith.

IMPROVEMENTS OF LEITH.

THE Town of Leith, during the period briefly traced in the preceding part of this Appendix, * kept pace with the metropolis in the career of opulence and population. Its merchants, who, about 40 years ago, were little more than retail shopkeepers, began to rival those of Glasgow and Liverpool, in the splendour of their establishments, and the extent of their commercial transactions. The southern districts rapidly assumed the appearance of an elegant modern city, and its extensive Links now form the area of an immense square of handsome buildings. The Port of Leith daily rose in importance; and new *Wet Docks*, on a magnificent plan, were commenced for the accommodation of its increasing commerce. This prosperous state of things continued until the peace of Paris in 1814, when the *Demon of Speculation* singled out this unfortunate place as its first and most devoted victim.

Such was the rage for the exportation of Colonial and British produce at this period, that the exports from the Port of Leith, during one quarter, actually equalled those of London! The Continental market was thus glutted to excess: the prices fell below any former average; and as

* See page 179,--182.

Leith.---Wet Docks.

Buonaparte and his industrious myrmidons had obligingly eased the inhabitants of all the Hanse towns as well as the Continent in general, of their last shilling,—the small quantities of goods that were sold on this occasion were seldom paid in ready money, and the bills that were granted were in most cases dishonoured. Leith was now threatened with universal bankruptcy ;—its credit and its trade were nearly annihilated, and a very great proportion of its principal merchants fell a sacrifice to their own imprudent speculations. But we now with pleasure hail the dawn of happier days : within the last few months its commerce has experienced a prodigious improvement ;—and we fervently hope that the Port of Leith will speedily resume its former respectable rank amongst the commercial cities of the British empire, and that its late fatal experience will for ever guard it against extravagant speculations of every kind.

WET DOCKS.

Leith has of late years received improvements indicative of its increased opulence. Of these, the most important are its splendid Wet Docks. A second draw-bridge has been thrown across the water, for the purpose of affording access to the docks. In the vicinity of the bridge stands a magnificent building, lately erected for a *Custom-house* and *Excise-office*. The first dock, which has been a considerable time in use, is

Leith.—Exchange Buildings.

250 yards in length, by 100 in breadth, and has sufficient accommodation for 40 ships of 200 tons burden. The second is of the same dimensions as the first, and is almost finished, the necessary degree of depth being already attained. The third is to be 500 yards, by 100, affording sufficient room for 80 ships of 200 tons. There is a range of ware-houses along the side of the first dock, which is to be continued along the other two. It is intended, also, to erect a similar range between the docks and the sea, for the purpose of affording shelter. It is said that Government intends erecting Royal Docks at Newhaven, and that ground and property, to the amount of £13,000, have been already purchased in contemplation of this great work.

EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.

A magnificent building has recently been erected at the east extremity of Constitution Street, for public purposes, as well as for the accommodation and amusement of the inhabitants of Leith. The building contains the Assembly-rooms, Coffee-rooms, Sale-rooms, and Subscription Library, all on an extensive scale. This edifice is now completely finished, and certainly surpasses in elegance every building in Leith.

Seafield Baths.—North Leith Church, &c.

SEAFIELD BATHS.

An elegant building was lately erected by subscription, at the south-east end of Leith Links, containing warm and cold baths, fitted up in a neat and convenient style, and a hotel and coffee-room, for the accommodation of those who may wish to remain there for some time.

NORTH LEITH CHURCH.

The old church of North Leith, which is a building of great antiquity, is falling rapidly into decay, and is too small to accommodate the increased population. A large and elegant church has been lately erected to the west of the town, sufficient to contain 2000 people. It is ornamented with a fine spire, which is seen at a considerable distance.

HILLMOUSEFIELD, OR NEW TOWN OF LEITH.

Leith has not only extended its limits on the south, but has considerably advanced towards the west. To accommodate the inhabitants of this crowded sea-port with commodious, elegant, and salubrious habitations, a public spirited gentleman,* some years ago, laid down the plan

* WILLIAM BOYD, Esq. Merchant in Leith.

Hillhousefield.

of a *New Town* on his grounds of *Hillhousefield* and *Bonnington*, nearly similar to that of the New Town of Edinburgh, but on a smaller scale : This plan will extend in length from New-haven road on the west, to a line parallel with Leith Fort on the east; the north being bounded by the great road from Queensferry to Leith, and the south by the Water of Leith.

The first great street on the north runs along both sides of the road from Queensferry to Leith, as above-mentioned, and is called *Jamaica Street*, and may be said to answer to *Queen Street* : Some fine buildings are already erected along this road. The *second* parallel street, (like *Thistle Street*,) is named *Trafalgar Lane* ; this lane is already considerably advanced. The *third* great parallel street, (answering to *George street*,) is called *Pitt Street*. These, with the cross streets to be immediately mentioned, complete the *present* plan of the proprietor ; but should the demand for houses encourage it, a *fourth* parallel street, (resembling *Rose street*) is to be opened to the south of *Pitt street* ; and a *fifth*, running along the banks of the river, with spacious gardens intervening, and standing like *Princes street* on a fine terrace, will complete the extended plan.

The *first* cross street on the east is named *South Fort Street*, and runs parallel with *North Fort Street* ; it will communicate with Leith

Hillhousefield.

Walk, by a handsome bridge across the river ;— some elegant houses are already built on both sides of this street. The second cross opening is named *Trafalgar Street* ; and the *third*, running along the road to Newhaven, is already pretty far advanced, under the name of *Bonnington Place* ; the houses are singularly neat and commodious, with small plots of garden ground, both in front and behind them.

The situation of this town is admirable ;— standing on a gentle elevation, in the vicinity of the sea and of the old town of Leith, within half an hour's walk of the Cross of Edinburgh, and commanding on every side the most delightful prospects, it must speedily become a favourite residence of the inhabitants of Leith, and even attract many families from the capital. To its other numerous advantages, we may add that of an abundant supply of soft water from the river ; and, in its immediate neighbourhood, on the opposite bank of the river, there is one of the best mineral wells in this country. The medical virtues of this mineral attract numerous visitors from Edinburgh and Leith during the spring and summer months. *

* Independent of the plan here detailed, various new streets are opening on other parts of the lands of *Hillhousefield*, to the N. E. of the above buildings.

Union Canal.

EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW UNION CANAL.

This great work, so long contemplated, will, it is hoped, be soon commenced, as all opposition to it has been removed, and a considerable proportion of the expence has been subscribed, in shares of L.50 each.

This Canal will begin at Lock No. 16. on the Forth and Clyde Canal, at Falkirk, and terminate in a basin at Gilmour Place, west end of the Meadows, Edinburgh, being an extent of 28 miles: its width will be 35 feet, its depth 5 feet,---and the total expence is estimated at L.235,167 Sterling. It may be completed in four years.

The advantages attending this great undertaking are said to be highly important. It will open an inland navigation between Scotland and the west of England, and the whole of Ireland: Coach passengers, parcels, and land-carriage of goods betwixt Edinburgh and Glasgow, amount to about L.70,000 yearly; this sum, it is said, the Union Canal will lessen one-third. Coal will be only two-thirds of its present price to the inhabitants of Edinburgh. Coal and lime will form its principal trade, as the line through which it passes is said to contain inexhaustible quantities, besides freestone and ironstone. It has been calculated that the Union Canal will pay 20 per cent on the outlay, after deducting all expences.

Mr Baird, the engineer employed to trace out the line of the above canal, has also calculated the expence of a canal on a more extensive scale, such as may admit coasting vessels, being eight feet deep, with 66 draw-bridges in place of stone bridges; and it amounts to L.516,470 to Edinburgh. To carry on this canal to Leith would require 30 additional locks, and an expence of L.200,000---in all L.716,470. This canal, in Mr Baird's opinion, would not yield to subscribers five per cent. and is liable besides to almost insurmountable objections.

REPORT

ON THE

PLANS

FOR LAYING OUT THE GROUNDS FOR BUILDINGS
BETWEEN EDINBURGH AND LEITH.

BY WILLIAM STARK, ESQ. ARCHITECT.

INTRODUCTION *.

THE following observations were communicated to a Gentleman high in office, sometime after the death of Mr Stark, by one of his relations. All who have perused the Report, whether those more immediately connected with the subject treated of, or the interest of the Hospitals; or gentlemen of taste, who have attended to the plans for forming the third New Town of the Metropolis, concur in highly estimating the value of the benefits that must result from attending to the general views here laid down, whichever plan is preferred. Indeed, the ideas thrown out are founded upon principles so just, so rational, and so general, as to be at once applicable to the formation of a town in any situation. In publishing this paper, a tribute is gladly paid to departed worth and superior talents. Mr Stark possessed rare and splendid abilities; such as would, by delicate scientific gradations, have soon led him to a degree of perfection attained by few indeed of the most studious and diligent professors of the noble art which was his chief study.

Edinburgh, June 1814.

* By a Friend of Mr STARK'S.

REPORT BY MR STARK.

Before proceeding to examine the competition designs, it was the opinion of the gentlemen who had the honour of being called to that office by the remit of the Lord Provost and the Proprietors, that it was necessary to devote some time previously to a careful inspection of the ground ; a part of it being so irregular, as to make it very difficult to judge of the merits of any plans, on which the inflections of the surface had not been accurately indicated or described by correct profiles and elevations, shewing in what degree these irregularities might affect the beauty or convenience of the streets and buildings.

It was thought that, besides the irregularity of the surface, there were other local peculiarities which required to be weighed with some attention ; and that, in reporting either upon the comparative merits of the various designs, or upon their capability of application and specific fitness for the situation, it might be necessary to adopt a principle of judgment considerably different from that which might determine the most eligible allotment of the more common kinds of building ground.

It were superfluous here to enlarge upon the singular beauty and variety of the property which is to form the site of the new buildings, or to point out in what degree the value of any plan, considered as a work of judgment and of taste, will be determined in the public estimation, by the skill with which these qualities shall have been combined in the arrangements of the streets and dwellings.

The same criterion, it is presumed, will influence in no small degree its value, considered with a view to its beneficial results to the proprietors. To a community like that of Edinburgh, where a taste for fine scenery is so generally prevalent, it is impossible that such situations should fail to have high attractions, if adorned with buildings worthy of them, and combined so as to retain even a portion of their local beauties and splendid views.

This observation, it may be thought, will only apply to the Calton Hill, as the views from the lower grounds will be enveloped with buildings. This, however, need not unavoidably be the case. There are assemblages of *trees*, besides, which might be well worth preserving, even at some expence of ground, as they might adorn a square or public walk, or give interest and picturesque effect to a church; and some swelling acclivities, which might be employed to give such a building a more commanding site, and more elevation and dignity.

It were sacrificing too much, perhaps, to scenery, to make it a cause for giving up elegance or convenience in the arrangement of the buildings, or even for incurring any considerable loss of ground; although this last falls to be a matter of calculation; for beauty of site will be found most probably a vendible commodity. It may indeed be attended with a sacrifice of another kind, though that surely will not be deemed of any importance; it may injure the symmetry of the *ground* plan, and disturb the harmony and measured allotment of streets, squares, and crescents. Yet it were easy to shew of how little consequence all this is, except upon paper; how unavailing in execution the minute precision of a mathematical figure, the exact parallelism of lines, equiangularity of divisions, and all the other niceties of square and rule.

To a stranger occupied in the examination of the present New Town, it would import little to be informed, when looking along George's Street, that it is precisely parallel to Prince's Street and Queen's Street; or, if admiring Charlotte Square, to be told that it forms the exact counterpart upon the ground plan to St Andrew's Square.

Yet to such imaginary figures (for imaginary we must call them, when no eye can trace them in execution) we are apt to sacrifice real and essential advantages. Streets are carried down the steep declivity of a hill, contrary to elegance, to convenience, or even to safety; and to preserve their alignment *straight*, the buildings are made to appear crooked; for such they must seem when they are placed at unequal levels, as if the ground had sunk partially beneath them, leaving a series of disjointed horizontal lines, and a waving undetermined outline.

On the other hand, there are not, unfrequently, in a *bending* alignment of street, much beauty, and perhaps the most striking

effects. Public buildings break upon the eye at the most favourable points of view, shewing at once a front and a flank. They are seen at a proper distance, and under a proper angle; but, if placed at the extremity, or even at the side of a long and straight line of street, they are descried too soon, and expectation and interest have subsided ere they have assumed the form and the magnitude most calculated to please and to strike.

This grandeur of effect, united to great elegance and beauty of contour, experience shews us, may be found in streets, whose form an artist employed in laying down a plan, more especially a competition one, might hesitate to exhibit on his paper. It is not intended, however, by this observation, to decry a due degree of deference to regularity of form, in so far as it can be indulged without harm; and as the first requisite in the arrangement of a town is convenience, it is of importance that, when the ground permits it, the communications should be as much as possible in right lines, and the inclosed spaces formed with right angles; and this must necessarily induce regularity of form.

On the other hand, when circumstances render it expedient, there should be no apprehensions of any deterioration either of the magnificence or beauty of the design by the introduction of *curves*, either regular or irregular.

It ought to be remembered also, that among the qualities we value in the distribution of a town, variety and unexpected change of form, both in the streets and buildings, are by no means the least acceptable. But those which have an imposing effect in the *ground plan*, are symmetry and uniformity of figure, the repetition of a few homogenous parts. All this tends to monotony in execution, if not counteracted by very careful provisions in regard to the forms of the buildings.

But the variety attained in this manner must necessarily be very limited, from its being subject at every step to the controuling principle of utility; for there are certain forms, and heights, and dimensions, which will be found, generally speaking, the most acceptable; and to compel purchasers to depart from them, can only be done by some sacrifice, or by a premium.

It is for the end, therefore, of attaining in the first instance, and at the least cost, this desirable quality of variety, and no less for the preservation of positive beauty, that I would suggest the

importance of strict attention to *accidents of situation*; and that, in doing this, the trees at present scattered over some parts of the property should not be accounted unworthy of regard. It were, no doubt, extremely absurd to mar a good plan for the sake of any assemblage of trees. But this question should be well weighed before laying the axe to their roots.

As an instance, I select the fine double row of elms which stand in a line with the buildings of Baxter's Place, and form the northern boundary of Mr Allan's property. They extend 600 feet down Leith Walk; and it would seem impossible for any one to approach them without being struck with the beauty of their forms, or remarking what effect they give to this approach to Edinburgh, and how much indeed they enrich and give interest to the whole surrounding scene.

The position of these elms has not been indicated on the engraved plan distributed to the competitors. In consequence, probably, of this circumstance, they have been quite overlooked in the designs given in; and, with the exception of 100 feet necessarily occupied with the London road, the whole site is represented covered with buildings. This circumstance is the more unaccountable, because the alignment of the street at this point is so bad, that had the preservation of the trees been in itself of no consequence, still it was necessary to throw back the buildings which protrude in an abrupt and disagreeable manner, forming a salient angle in this part of the street, which totally ruins the effect of its otherwise beautiful curvature. The effect of isolating and railing in the trees, with the addition of evergreens and shrubbery, would be a perpetual ornament to that part of Edinburgh. The new buildings placed in line with those of Baxter's Place, and at the distance of a broad gravel walk from the trees, would fall in naturally with the fine concave sweeping line of the lower part of the walk. In dwelling upon the importance of giving to this part of the property all the beauty and attraction of which it is susceptible, I would crave permission to state that this forms the off-set point of the New Town; that the first buildings will most probably be erected here; and that these are likely to stamp the value, tone, and character of every other edifice which may arise in the same quarter.

It seems to be now admitted to have been a prejudice, that trees

and town buildings are incongruous objects. They must surely be admitted to assimilate well together, since our best landscape painters, Claude and the Poussins, never tired of painting them, nor the world of admiring what they painted. From the practice of those great masters, whom we must regard as unerring authorities, of constantly combining trees and architecture, it might be inferred to have been their opinion that there could be no beauty where either of these objects was wanting.

Were it asked, to what circumstance does Grosvenor Square owe its beauty and attractions? the answer would surely be, to its architecture and its trees. Leaving it, and proceeding to others which have *not* the advantage of this fine accompaniment, for example to Fitzroy Square, built with stone, and magnificently ornamented by Mr Adams, even in winter we feel the change. Would the view of the Colleges of Oxford excite the same sensations of pleasure, if the gardens and the trees were away? Or the scenery of the Mall, or the Bird-Cage Walk, or the streets of the towns in Holland? Even in Amsterdam, a town built in a quagmire, the street views are delightful, from the effect of the rows of lime trees, notwithstanding the ridiculous encasement of their stems in green sentry boxes.

It might seem attaching unmerited importance to this subject to dwell longer upon it. But it is one that ought to be kept in view along with other more important objects, when judging in detail of the respective merits of the plans; and should operate as a caution against the too hasty reception of any plan which presupposes the ground being cleared away, and spread out like the paper on which it is delineated; which levels alike all the asperities and all the beauties of the surface, destroying objects which all that the taste of the architect can produce, *never can compensate the loss of*. Indeed, when the smoothing process is once finished, what remains for him to do but to set off in the plain straight forward course, and to ring a few monotonous changes upon right lines and regular mathematical curves?

The inclinations of the surface of the ground is the next circumstance which requires to be taken into consideration; and it is the most important of any in judging of the plans, although it will be limited almost entirely to the Calton Hill, and to the rising grounds on the south side of the proposed new London road.

But before leaving the lower and more extensive part of the property, to which the foregoing observations were meant chiefly to apply, it may be proper to advert to another circumstance in these grounds, which may perhaps without impropriety be classed among the accidents of surface already alluded to, and which would seem to have to a certain extent a controuling influence over every plan that has been brought forward.

Under this head, I allude to various pieces of ground belonging to other persons, who, it is stated in the engraved plans, have not signified their consent to the general arrangements.

From the circumstance of its having been thought necessary to communicate this information to the competitors, it is assumed that the holders of these objects are reserving to themselves a right of decision upon the plans; and, in judging of them, it may be expected they will be influenced by the consideration of what may be most advantageous to their own property, as much as by the general utility or abstract excellence of any particular design.

It would therefore seem necessary to the ultimate success of any plan, that it should be constructed with considerable deference to the interests of the holders of these grounds; or otherwise, that it should be so combined as to be complete in itself, and independent of them. Without this, the proprietors might in the end find it requisite to give up some advantages to them, or to secure their consent by some pecuniary sacrifice.

Yet if the general scheme is likely to be beneficial, these landholders will be impelled, by a regard for their own interest, to desire a participation of it; for it does not seem probable that in any other way they could derive so much benefit from their ground as by letting it fall into the general plan.

This remark will be understood as applying to the lot of ground No. 15*, the holder of which it is fervently to be wished may find it more suitable to his taste or convenience to retain it in its present shape than to build upon it; as it will be more ornamental to the town, with its fine fringing of trees, than it possibly could be if

* Lot No. 15. is the property of the heirs of Mr SLIGO, and lies upon the east side of the old road to Leith, a little way further down than the present toll bar. No consent has yet been signified to the general plan by the holders of this lot.

covered with chimneys. Nor will its environs be less inviting, or its air less salubrious, if kept up as a garden and nursery, than it would be if the whole site were covered with buildings.

An unbuilt, uninclosed piece of ground in the heart of a town is certainly an eye-sore ; but if surrounded by a wall, and a row of trees, its character is totally changed, and a glimpse of it, even at the termination of a street, is delightful.

A cordon of planting and shrubbery carried round that property would form a public walk three-fourths of a mile in circumference. A ride, or a carriage drive, a luxury yet unknown in Edinburgh, might be formed very eligibly at this spot ; and the space adjoining would be agreeable, indeed enviable, situations for rows of houses or villas.

A small sacrifice of ground made in this way, it is presumed, might advance the value of the whole adjoining property, and at the same time prevent inconvenience from any uses to which the subject No. 15. could be afterwards converted.

The irregular surface of the *upper* part of the building property has given rise, as might be supposed, to great difference of opinion among the competitors who have given in designs. In some of these, the buildings are carried up to the summit of the Calton Hill, and seem to envelope the sites both of the monument and observatory ! In others, they are confined to its more temperate and accessible regions ; and in many more it has been overlooked altogether, as if unfit for the purpose of building.

It is presumed, that the true and expedient course will be found to lie between these extremes ; and from the probability there is that the sides of the Calton Hill will sooner or later be built upon, it is of the utmost importance that the plan should be well considered, since the site is so well calculated to display either all its beauty or deformity.

It were needless to state in what degree the Calton Hill is an object of public interest, considered either as a leading feature in the general scenery of Edinburgh, or as a striking and attractive spot, affording a succession of the most splendid and diversified views that are to be found assembled in the immediate vicinity of any large city, and within the compass of a few minutes walk.

In alluding to these views, the only remark I would venture to make is, that they are finer when seen from a moderate elevation, by skirting the brow of the hill, than taken from near the summit.

This observation holds pretty generally true in regard to views that are obtained from great eminences. They lose, in ascending, the richness and characteristic effect of landscape, and assume the qualities of a map rather than of a picture.

From the Calton Hill, the view will probably be admitted to be the finest at a level not greatly higher than that of Prince's Street, and nearly equal to that of the Post Office. This is about the height of the step or stage which runs eastward from the Bridewell.

At that point the view of the old town becomes exceedingly grand, from its parts being so assembled as to shew in a very striking degree the contrast of great depth and great elevation, and from the accidental and happy grouping of its great masses of buildings, which combine in large and picturesque forms, with broad effects of light and shadow, and occasionally with splendid colouring. The next view is a mountain scene of no despicable kind, with an interesting foreground accompaniment in the venerable pile of Holyrood-House. On the third view, which immediately afterwards bursts upon the eye, it were idle to offer any observation, as it must be impossible for any one who has seen it, to forget the impression produced by its singular beauty and extent, and by its gay and animated character. It may be remarked, however, of these three views, that, independently of their intrinsic merits, they derive a reflex value from each other, by their striking opposition and contrast. Taking all these qualities together, it is very difficult to conceive any thing so finely adapted for an esplanade or terrace, as the line which has just been traced out; and it is impossible it should fail to have strong attractions, if eligibly laid out for building ground.

In proceeding towards the east and north, we leave what is properly the Calton Hill at the salient angle of the boundary wall near an old gate, and by a gentle regular curvature, on the same level, round the upper part of the pasture field, we are brought to the higher angle of the wooded screen which rises above Baxter's Place, and forms the south-west corner of Mr Allan's property.

It does not appear to me that buildings placed higher than this line would form accessible, or in any respect desirable, residences. But the level now described, being no higher than the Post-Office, would not be too elevated either for convenience or comfort, while it would probably afford the grandest and most varied views to be found in any city of Europe.

POSTSCRIPT BY A FRIEND.

Mr STARK had carried his Report no farther, a circumstance which will be regreted by every man of taste.

It is known to his intimate friends that he spent a great deal of time in examining the competition plans, in attentively surveying the ground, and in making sketches of it, in order to satisfy himself as to the most eligible mode of laying it out. From those sketches he had begun to make a large drawing, to illustrate his report; but the unfortunate state of his health prevented him from accomplishing his purpose; and the sketches are so entirely of the nature of memoranda for his own use only, that they would not be at all intelligible to any other person.

It is also known to his friends that, in order to give proper access to the buildings eastward of Bridewell, and to the grand Terrace which he proposed to carry round the slope of the hill on the same level, he intended earnestly to recommend connecting the Calton-Hill with Prince's Street by means of a bridge, the rise of which would have been, he said, very gentle. His idea was to construct it like a Roman aqueduct, of two or three orders of arcades; and by making those arcades into workshops (with a stair leading down to them at each end of the bridge) he thought that the rents or prices which might be got for them might go far towards defraying the expence of the bridge. He has not, however, left any such drawings or descriptions as could be produced to illustrate his ideas on this subject. But the writer of this note considered it to be a duty to communicate what Mr Stark repeatedly mentioned to him and to other friends.

The top of the hill, as being too elevated for dwelling-houses, and thus of very little commercial value, he proposed making into a *public walk*, which, by being laid out in shrubbery, and inclosed with a parapet wall and rail, in order to preserve it, he conceived would not only prove a considerable attraction to the buildings in its vicinity, but one of the greatest possible ornaments to Edinburgh, and one of the most gratifying and healthy promenades that any city can boast of. The expence of keeping it in good order would be but an annual trifle; but if the community should grudge it, a person might be appointed who should be entitled to demand

a small contribution from every one getting admittance, to enable him to keep the walks and shrubbery in order. It were better to have it even on these terms, than not have it at all. But public walks, free from the noise and the danger of horses and carriages, to which old people and children are exposed in the streets, seem to be a necessary appendage to a great city, and ought to be provided, even at some expence. That expence is by no means unproductive of a beneficial return to the community; for by increasing the convenience and elegancies of the metropolis, additional inducements are held out to our nobility, and to our wealthy neighbours from the north of England and Ireland, to make it their residence. The spacious and beautiful walks which adorn both the south and north sides of Perth, and which so well attest the public spirit and good taste of its former Magistrates, render it one of the most pleasant towns in the kingdom.

THE END.

John Moir, Printer,
Edinburgh, 1817.

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